

# 'Peonage' Case Is Thrown Out Of U. S. Court

*Advertiser*  
**Kennamer Rules U. S. Without Jurisdiction In Individuals' Riffs**

*7-9-21-51*  
 Two cases involving alleged "peonage and involuntary servitude" were thrown out of U. S. District Court here Thursday on the grounds that the federal government has no jurisdiction over disputes between individual citizens of the State of Alabama.

Judge C. B. Kennamer assigned costs to the two plaintiffs, Limous McGee and his wife, Mayola McGee, Negroes, of Wetumpka.

*Birmingham*  
 Defendants in the case included Mack Austin, Jack Austin and Jesse Austin, of Wetumpka, upon whose farm Limous and Mayola McGee lived as sharecroppers; Lester Holley, sheriff of Elmore County; Winston Huddleston, circuit solicitor; W. E. Strickland, Elmore County justice of the peace; J. H. Jones, of the Klinner Furniture Company and Jack Bozeman.

The state of Alabama was the foremost defendant.

The McGees contended they worked for the Austins on a sharecropper basis, and that the latter took the full crop without dividing with the plaintiffs.

The Austins accused Limous of the theft of a motor-bike. He left Wetumpka for Montgomery, officials state, and his wife, Mayola, claimed that she was held on the Austin farm in a "state of peonage and involuntary servitude" to compel the return of her husband.

Limous McGee was eventually arrested for the alleged theft. He was allowed bail, and the civil rights suit followed.

## No Violations

Judge Kennamer found the state of Alabama "not a proper party and it cannot be made a party defendant to these proceedings." He held no federal statutes had been violated.

The Elmore officials were included as defendants because of

the issuance and serving of the warrant for the arrest of Limous McGee.

Judge Kennamer quashed the proceedings against them. He said, in part:

"The uncontroverted facts . . . would not support an allegation fendants conspired to deprive the plaintiffs of rights, privileges or immunities secured by the Constitution and laws of the United States, or of the equal protection of the laws, or of equal privileges and immunities under the law."

The court concluded that the defendants, Lester Holley, Winston Huddleston and W. E. Strickland, were entitled to judgement as a matter of law, with court costs to be recovered from the plaintiffs.

The return of service upon J. H. Jones and Jack Bozeman was likewise quashed.

It was brought out in court that Winston Huddleston is not Elmore County solicitor, as charged by plaintiffs, but circuit solicitor, and as such had no contact with plaintiffs.

Other findings of the court: W. E. Strickland, justice of the peace, attempted to assist the parents of Mayola McGee in seeking information from the county solicitor as to whether the facts presented would sustain issuance of a warrant against the Austins.

Strickland recommended that the parents of Mayola McGee secure independent council to advise on filing of habeas corpus proceedings against Jack, Mack and Jesse Austin.

The court record states that Limous McGee was assisted in getting bond for release pending Grand Jury action.

A sidelight was the complaint against one "J. H. J.—name unknown". The court found him to be J. H. Jones, known, and acquitted.

As to the three individuals, the Austins, Judge Kennamer said:

"There is no allegation in the complaint that the said defendants, Jack Austin, Mack Austin and Jesse Austin, acted under color of any statute, ordinance, custom or usage, or that said defendants were officers or agents of the state of Alabama, or acted under color of any authority derived from the state of Alabama."

"The wrongs alleged to have been committed were alleged to have been committed by individuals in their individual capacities."

Quoting the case of Collins vs. Hardyman, U. S. Supreme Court, 95 L., Ed. 806, June 4, 1951, the Judge concluded:

"This court has no jurisdiction of such action by a resident of the state of Alabama against individual defendants likewise residents of the state of Alabama."

# Couple Make Peonage Charge, Judge Tosses Case Out, Makes Them Pay

*reponder, Sat 9-29-51*  
 MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A U. S. district judge Thursday threw out two cases involving Negroes being held in peonage on grounds that the federal government has no jurisdiction over "disputes between individual citizens of the State of Alabama."

The judge, C. B. Kennamer, even assessed costs against the two complainants, Limous McGee, and his wife, Mayola, sharecroppers of Wetumpka, Ala.

The defendants in the case included Mack Austin, Jack Austin and Jesse Austin, of Wetumpka, upon whose farm McGee and his wife lived as sharecropper; Lester Holley, sheriff of Elmore county; Winston Huddleston, circuit solicitor, W. E. Strickland, Elmore county justice of the peace; J. H. Jones and Jack Bozeman, all white.

The McGees accused the Austins of working them on a sharecropper basis and then seizing their full crop without dividing it with them.

The white men said that McGee stole a motor-bike and left Wetumpka for Montgomery.

Mrs. McGee charged that she was held on the Austin farm in a state of peonage and involuntary servitude to compel the return of her husband.

McGee was later arrested for the alleged motor-bike theft. He was released on bail and reported his wife's plight to federal authorities.



## Peonage Still On March

Indictments against Dooly County Sheriff and three other men, one of them the Sheriff's deputy and son-in-law, on false charges to hold Negroes in a state of peonage, emphasizes once again the need for more stringent Civil Rights legislation to protect the person and property of Negroes, particularly in the rural South. For it is still true that for the vast majority of Negro laborers and domestic workers in the rural South, life is only a step removed from object servitude.

But indictment of the sheriff, either in Dooly or the hundred other counties in Georgia, is but a small part of the gloomy picture. Rich planters and those not so rich have been known to work hand in hand with the law enforcement officials and local judges to conspire to deprive unsuspecting Negroes of their rights by having them arrested on assumed or trumped-up charges and then bailed out to work on some man's farm. There are hundreds upon hundreds of instances where such Negroes have never succeeded in making enough above bare subsistence to pay out small fines as low as \$50 and \$100.

This explains why so many southerners exhibit such a pathological fear and hatred of a Fair Employment Practices Law. They will not willingly accept any legislation which would place the domestic workers under Minimum Wage and Hour Law. As a consequence, the great mass of Negroes who work as cooks and maids are robbed of the protection of the law which was intended to lift their standards and that of their dependents.

It is interesting to observe that peonage and violence, Ku Kluxism and lynchings are hand-in-hand evils. Short school terms, intolerance and race-baiting live in the same environment.

We need an FEPC law to protect the rights of Negro workers, but over and above all of that we need more adequate civil rights legislation to head off the crusade to maintain that control of the thinking and behavior of Negro workers by denying to them the advantages of good pay and equal opportunities to rise according to his abilities.

## Writer Reports Peonage In Georgia Is Exposed

By ALICE A. DUNNIGAN  
(THIS IS THE SECOND OF A SERIES ON LABOR CONDITIONS FOR NEGROES IN GEORGIA AS REVEALED BY VARIOUS WITNESSES RECENTLY BEFORE A SENATE LABOR SUB-COMMITTEE)

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A very peculiar system of peonage exists in some sections of Georgia, according to facts revealed recently before a senate investigation committee.

The "air-tight" procedure was described by witnesses as working in this manner:

First of all, whiskey was voted out of Laurens county, but bootleg whiskey is apparently still plentiful. Because the sale of legal whiskey is prohibited, law enforcement officers can pick up persons on the slightest excuse and book them on almost any

charge, mainly that of "drunk driving."

Through a "close-knit" understanding between county officials and the big landlords of that sections, the prisoner is hauled off to jail. Here the judge fixes a fine bond on sets a fine which he cannot pay. Often the prisoner is told that he must either pay his fine or go to the chain gang.

Because Negroes fear the Georgia chain gang they willingly agree to almost any other alternative. Through some grapevine method, a landlord is contacted. The landlord appears on the scene and agrees to pay the prisoner's fine or to go on his bond, as the case might be.

The prisoner is released in the custody of this employer where he is subjected to work on almost any terms which the landlord wishes and

## Georgia

for an indefinite time. If the employee decides that he wishes to quit working for this person, he can be returned to jail by the landlord and thrown on the chain gang.

If the employer decides he no longer needs the service of this prisoner, he can transfer his ward to another landlord. The person is therefore sort of a slave for the rest of his life.

A specific case reported by a white Attorney James A. Johnson of Macon, Ga. was that of a James Edward Day, Jr., who was working under similar conditions for a Mr. Balote who operated naval stores in Mentor, Ga.

Day was worked unmercifully and paid only two or three dollars a week. He had been denied medical attention.

His wife was in an insane asylum and his four children were denied sufficient food and clothing. Claiming that he could stand this no longer Day ran away, leaving his children with a Negro woman on the place.

About three weeks later Day was located by Balote and two other white men who threatened to carry him to jail if he refused to return to work. The frightened Negro accompanied them back to the job but ran away again in about 10 days finding his way to Johnson's office in Macon.

The Macon lawyer prepared a writ of habeas corpus for the children's release and filed about a year ago. On the day of the trial he carried Day to Dublin with him, where he was arrested as soon as he entered the courtroom on charge of an abandonment warrant.

When the habeas corpus was called for trial, the children were released to the white lawyer, who could do nothing with them now that their father had been placed in jail and their mother was in the hospital.

The children were practically naked, testified Johnson, and the youngest child, who was two years old at the time was covered with sores.

The baby was taken to a hospital where it was learned that she suffered malnutrition.

A Negro preacher of Dublin took the other children home with him. Clothing was secured for the children through radio appeals, and the lawyer set about getting Day out of jail on bond.

Every bondsman whom he offered was turned down on technicalities, said Johnson. Finally after more than a week he was able to get him out of jail by having a bondsman of Bibb County sign a

bond, and having the sheriff of that county approve it.

Day told him, so said Johnson, that during the period which he was in jail, Balote visited him several times asking him to return to work for him. He assured the prisoner that all charges would be dropped if he would agree to come back to work.

Sheriff Carols Day of Laurens County is alleged to have been present at several of these meetings between Balote and Day and knew what was going on.

Another case disclosed was one of Cleveland McCuller who was arrested by Sheriff Day on practically no charge. Upon being searched it was discovered that he carried a pocket-knife. He was then booked for carrying a deadly weapon and Judge Palmer Hicks of Dublin set a fine of \$61.50 or 12 months on the chain gang.

McCuller, who feared the chain gang, agreed to go to work for a Mrs. Audery with the agreement that his employer would pay the county \$20 per month until the fine was paid.

Mrs. Audery, whose husband was in jail at the time on a homicide charge, was attempting to run some sort of excavation business. After two or three weeks her machinery broke down and she no longer needed McCuller. He was then turned over to her neighbor who ran a turpentine plantation.

Within another week or two McCuller was rearrested and sent immediately to the chain gang where he is now serving his 12 months term.

Nobody was able to clarify why he was rearrested or who authorized him to be sent to the chain gang.

Judge Hicks said he was probably re-arrested because he failed to pay the first installment on his fine, and sheriff Gay said he came to the jail drunk which was a violation of his parole.

## U. S. Charges Four Georgians With Enslaving Two Negroes

Macon, Ga., Aug. 22 (AP)—The true bill accuses the white men of filing fictitious criminal charges against Blue in January 1949, and using these charges to return him from Detroit and make him work on the Calhoun farm. It says Chancey, acting as a deputy sheriff, actually returned Blue to the farm. Another count sets forth that they beat Cross and jailed him in January, 1951, in order to force him to return to the Calhoun farm after he had moved off the place.

Dooly County lies in the cotton country of south-central Georgia. The County seat, Vienna, is a town of about 2,000 population some 75 miles south of Macon.



# They're Still Buying And Selling Negroes In Dixie, Georgia Lawyer Testifies

## Says Civil Rights Of 2 Laborers Were Violated

(Special To The Atlanta Daily World)

MACON — (SNS) — A Dooly County sheriff and three other white men were indicted Wednesday by a federal grand jury on charges of peonage and of violating the civil rights of two Negroes.

The Sheriff was identified in the bill of indictment as John Byron Fokes. Others accused in the indictment were Frank Bivins Calhoun of Unadilla; his son Rodney Lee Calhoun, and his son-in-law, Edward Thomas Chancey. Records show that Chancey is a deputy sheriff under Fokes.

Indictments were returned against the four men at the conclusion of a two-day session of the grand jury for the Americus Division of the Middle Georgia District.

Two Negroes Theodis, "Bud" Blue and A. C. "Red" Cross, were identified as persons whose civil rights were allegedly violated in connection with the peonage charge.

The federal grand jury's formal report charged that in January, 1949, Sheriff Fokes, the two Calhouns and Chancey were responsible for false charges filed against Blue. It was on the strength of the fictitious charges that the laborer was brought back to Dooly County from Detroit.

Deputy Sheriff Chancey went to Detroit and brought Blue back to the Calhouns' farm outside Unadilla the indictment alleged.

It further charged that in January of this year Sheriff Fokes, the Calhouns and Chancey inflicted a beating upon the other laborer, Cross, and placed him in jail after he had moved away from the Calhoun farm. The beating and jailing were meted to Cross in an attempt to force him to return to the farm and work, the four-count indictment charged.

Court attaches said the four men may be placed on trial in the Americus judicial circuit in January 1952.

**SOME EMPLOYERS** in Laurens County, Ga., have apparently never heard of the 13th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution, which outlaws slavery and involuntary servitude.

Testifying before the Senate Labor-Management Relations Subcommittee, Thomas W. Johnson, a practicing lawyer from Macon, Ga., related the case of a Negro, James Day, Jr., who, he said, also employer attempted to hold in peonage.

Day told him that the operator of the Naval Store at Mentor, in Laurens County, had his four children and refused to let him have them. The Negro was sent to Johnson by the U. S. District Attorney's office in Macon.

"I asked him what the trouble was," Johnson related. "He told me he had gone to work for the proprietor, William Balote, some time prior and that Balote had worked him unmercifully, had paid him only \$2 or \$3 a week, and had refused him medical attention."

"He said his children were without sufficient food, that they had no clothing, which fact I later confirmed, and that they did not have enough to eat."

The attorney said the Negro put up with the situation as long as he could and finally ran away. He went to a neighboring county where he got a job.

A month later Balote and two other white men came to where he was staying and told him they had a warrant for him and that if he did not come back and go to work for Balote, they were going to put him in jail.

"He went back with them to Mentor," Johnson stated. "After about a week or 10 days he again ran away."

The attorney told the committee he went to Balote's store to attempt to get the children.

"Balote asked me where Day was and I told him he had not come because I had not thought it necessary," Johnson related.

He said Balote then declared:

"I want that blank Negro to come down here because I want to put him in jail."

Johnson then asked Balote if he intended to hold the children as security for a \$200 debt he said Day owed him.

"He said he didn't give a damn what it was called, but that he intended to hold them until his money was paid," Johnson testified.

After a further series of events, which included the jailing of Day on an abandonment charge, Johnson said he was able to get the Negro out of jail and reunited with his children after eight days.

Humphrey asked if this was an unusual case. Johnson replied that "situations of this kind are entirely too prevalent in the South."

"Some employers down there get Negroes in debt to them purposely," he declared. "They actually buy the debts from each other."

"If one Negro wants to go and work for somebody else and it is satisfactory with the man for whom he is working at the moment, the man for whom he wants to work buys the debt from the other man."

"They hold it over this Negro's head. Great numbers of times, if the Negro doesn't want to work for that particular person, he is prosecuted. All he has to do is to go back to work and the prosecution is dropped."

"That definitely is a form of peonage."



# Senate Committee Ponders wored Testimony On Peonage Qui. 8-17-51

BY LOUIS LAUTIER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—A Senate Labor and Public Welfare subcommittee last Tuesday heard conflicting testimony on anti-union activities and peonage in Laurens County, Georgia.

This story was unfolded as the committee inquired into the arrest of two union organizers who were conducting a campaign to organize sawmill workers in Dublin, the county seat of Laurens.

Senator Hubert Humphrey, Democrat, of Minnesota, who presided at the afternoon session, said the committee was primarily interested in two things: (1) whether there was any activity on the part of law enforcement officers to impede union organization in violation of the Taft-Hartley labor law, and (2) whether a system of peonage was practiced there.

The two union organizers—Charles H. Gillman, State Director for Georgia of the CIO Southern Organizing Committee, and Clyde G. Brock, a representative of the organizing committee, both native Georgians and residents of Atlanta, were arrested at a meeting of colored sawmill hands of the Cordell Lumber Company in Dublin on the night of February 8.

Sheriff Carlus Gay of Laurens County made the arrest in the grocery store of a colored man named Ernest Simms. According to Brock, there were fifty of fifty-five persons present at the meeting all of whom were colored except one white man in addition to the two CIO organizers.

Gillman testified that he opened the door of the store when Sheriff Gay and his deputies knocked. He said the sheriff had a gun in one hand and a flashlight in the other and started cursing the colored men asking them what they were doing and ran them all out of the building.

Brock testified that as two colored men stepped to a table to give him their signed membership cards, there was a knock on the door. The door was opened, he said, and he heard "a gruff voice say, 'What in the hell are you D... N.... doing here?'"

A letter addressed to Sen. James E. Murray, of Montana, chairman of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, by the Rev. A. L. Brewster, pastor of Saint Paul AME Church, Dublin, said Sheriff Gay is one of the best friends of southern colored people have in Georgia, and "I am afraid if Sheriff

Gay is hurt, the interest of 25,000 Negroes in Laurens County will also be hurt."

Ray R. Murdock, subcommittee counsel, questioned Sheriff Gay rather sharply concerning his arrest of the two CIO organizers on what the sheriff called "under suspicious circumstances" and "in a criminal environment."

Gay contended that Simms' grocery business was just a front and that Simms had probably gone back "into the liquor racket." Laurens is a dry county under Georgia's local option law.

Two committee staff members, Curtis Johnson and John Marshall Jr., who made a preliminary investigation for the committee, testified that the Cordell Lumber Company paid its sawmill hands 50 cents an hour for a 40-hour week and paid no overtime or premium pay.

Representatives of the Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department ordered the company to pay a minimum wage of 75 cents an hour and went over its books to determine the amount of back wages the company owed its employees under the Federal minimum wage law, Johnson testified.

Mr. Johnson also testified that the Cordell Lumber Company was able to recruit workers for its mill by payment of fines or signing the hands of colored men arrested for misdemeanors. If they did not work, they were sent back to jail.

men stepped to a table to give him their signed membership cards, there was a knock on the door. The door was opened, he said, and he heard "a gruff voice say, 'What in the hell are you D... N.... doing here?'"

"The voice then said, 'All of you are you get out of this building.' Brock said he looked around and saw Sheriff Gay with a gun in one hand and a flashlight in the other.

Brock said the sheriff ordered him and Gillman to stand where they were and asked them, "what are you doing at this D... N.... meeting?"

Both union organizers said they told the sheriff they were holding a union meeting. Brock quoted the sheriff as replying, "Union hell, you are holding a damn Communist meeting?"

Sheriff Gay ordered the two

union organizers locked up. Brock said the sheriff also asked the third white man, Carl Holliday, an employee of the Cordell Lumber Company, what was he doing there. When Holliday replied that he had come to the union meeting with the two organizers, Brock testified, the sheriff told Holliday, "You get the hell out of here and don't let me catch you around here again."

Sometime after the two organizers were locked up, a deputy sheriff got in touch with a local lawyer, Carl Nelson, who went to see them the next morning. After interviewing the two prisoners, Nelson called Hugo L. Black, Jr., an attorney in Birmingham, Alabama, and son of the Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, who is a regional lawyer for the CIO.

Nelson, who represented Gillman and Brock, attended the hearing as attorney for Sheriff Gay and also testified as a witness. He claimed he got the two men out on a writ of habeas corpus the next day.

But Gillman testified: "We were never charged with any crime nor were we requested to appear before the judge for the habeas corpus proceedings. The only thing we know is that the attorney arranged our release and the CIO paid him the fee of \$200."

Sheriff Gay testified that an informer had informed him that "moonshine" whiskey was to be delivered to Ernest Simms' place on the night of the arrest and he had a deputy to get a search warrant. He said when he knocked on the door of the store, Simms opened it and said "Come right in, Mr. Gay."

The sheriff said he asked "What are you doing here in this nigger joint, this bootleg joint." He said he was told they were having a meeting.

"What kind of a meeting?" the sheriff said he asked. When the two organizers did not reply, he testified, he asked, "Jehovah's witnesses meeting?" When the organizers said no, the sheriff said he asked: "Communist meeting, and they again said no. He added that they did not tell him it was a union meeting until they were being driven to



# Georgia Police Officer <sup>Courier</sup> Three <sup>Sub. 9-1-51</sup> Others Accused

**Federal Indictment Charges Sheriff Fokes,  
Three Prosperous White Men With Peonage  
Violation of Rights of Two Farm Workers**

(Special to the Courier)

MACON, Ga.—A Federal grand jury has charged a rural Georgia sheriff and three prosperous white men with violating the civil rights of two colored farm workers and with peonage.

The jury, which met in Macon last Monday and Tuesday, said in a four-count indictment that the sheriff and two other men returned one of the men, Theodis (Bud) Blue, from Detroit, Mich., to Vienna, Ga., in 1949, on a false charge that he abandoned his minor child.

The indictment accuses Dooly County Sheriff John Byron Fokes, 38, of Vienna; Frank Bivins Calhoun, middle-aged Unadilla businessman and operator of a large farm; Calhoun's son, 22-year-old Rodney Lee Calhoun, and his son-in-law, Edward Chancey, 38, a part-time deputy sheriff.

## FORCED TO WORK

Two counts of the indictment charged Sheriff Fokes, the elder Calhoun and Chancey with returning Blue to Georgia from Michigan, thus depriving him of his constitutional right to live in freedom in Michigan, and with forcing him to work on Calhoun's farm "against his will and desire."

The other two counts charged all four men with arresting A. C. (Red) Cross, the other man, without a warrant or other legal reason, with beating him and holding him in jail on a trumped-up charge and finally making him work on the Calhoun farm.

According to the grand jury, Blue left the South Georgia county and went to Detroit to get a job after leaving Calhoun's farm where he had worked. He was

working for the Hudson Motor Company when he was arrested by Chancey, who was deputized by Fokes for the job, and two Detroit city detectives for return to Georgia.

## CHARGES FALSE

Calhoun caused Simon Lane, a relative of Blue's wife, to swear out a warrant falsely charging Blue with abandoning his child, the indictment said. Using the "false and fictitious" criminal charge, it continued, the men, "well knowing—Theodis Blue... had committed no act which would justify extradition procedures to secure his return to Dooly County, Georgia, proceeded with the illegal acts.

The purpose of the act, the jury said, was to compel Blue to work "against his will and desires for Calhoun." The act of forcing him to work against his will made the three men guilty of peonage, it said.

The third and fourth counts of the indictment charged all four white men with arresting Cross without legal cause, thus depriving him of his constitutional rights while acting under color of law, and then beating him and forcing him to work in a state of peonage for Calhoun.

Cross had left the Calhoun farm about a week before and moved to another white farmer's place in another part of Dooly County. The indictment charges he was arrested and beaten on Jan. 5.

Both Blue and Cross still live in Dooly County. Blue has a wife and one child and Cross has a wife and six children.

Each of the defendants was ordered placed under \$2,500 bond. The trial is expected to be held at Americus, Ga., Jan. 21, 1952. Dooly County is located in the American Division of the Middle Georgia District of the U. S. Court. Macon is headquarters for the district.

Fokes is a former Georgia State Patrolman and has served as sheriff for several years.

Maximum sentences possible for the elder Calhoun, Chancey and Fokes, should they be found guilty on all four counts, would

be sixteen years in prison and fines totaling \$21,000. Maximum sentences for Rodney Lee Calhoun, should he be found guilty on both counts three and four, would total six years in prison and \$6,000 fine.

# Grand Jury Indicts Dooly County Sheriff For Peonage

(Special To The Atlanta Daily World)

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Detroit.

Deputy Sheriff Chancey went to Detroit and brought Blue back to the Calhouns' farm outside Unadilla the indictment alleged.

It further charged that in January of this year Sheriff Fokes, the Calhouns and Chancey inflicted a beating upon the other laborer, Cross, and placed him in jail after he had moved away from the Calhoun farm. The beating and jailing were meted to Cross in an attempt to force him to return to the farm and work, the four-count indictment charged.

Court attaches said the four men may be placed on trial in the Americus judicial circuit in January, 1952.



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Virginia

# Woman Says Sect Leader Held Her Slave Four Years

By GUIDE STAFF WRITER

NORFOLK — A 38-year-old Norfolk woman claimed this week that she was held in virtual peonage for four years by the leader of a religious sect of which she was a member.

Mrs. Hattie Reed of Berkley avenue said she worked for four years harvesting crops under a sharecropper - religious leader and received no wages the whole time.

"They didn't even half feed me," she charged.

Apparently filled only with the "Holy Ghost," Mrs. Reed said she worked from 1941 until 1945 on farms near Hallwood, Va.

member of the sect

"Once I wanted to go take care of a woman who was sick but the 'prophetess' said it wasn't the Lord's will. Sometimes if I wanted to go somewhere she'd get down and pray and then warn me that something might happen if I'd go", Mrs. Reed said. The woman added that at times she felt as though the minister and his wife had "false spirits" speak to her and influence her to keep on working with the sect.

Mrs. Reed said she was converted into the sect in 1939 in Norfolk. When she went to Hallwood in 1941 to work a Norfolk "prophetess" got her in with the sect there.

SHE SAID SHE finally got

the courage to break away when the religious leader, his wife (known as a prophetess) and six others lived in the farm tenant house. The religious leader was in charge of the hired hands on a large farm and later became a share cropper for the owner.

Mrs. Reed said she has been seeking help in getting her money from the preacher for the past six years and went to see him about the matter as late as September. She has now engaged the services of Hugo Madison, Norfolk attorney.

Three of the eight in the "heavenly body" were treated as slaves under the guise that it was "God's will", Mrs. Reed said. The three, Mrs. Reed said, were herself; a sickly woman who later died, and a white man whom the minister had told "God is sending a wife to you on the farm and to wait here for her".

The minister was supposed to pay off the hired hands, but Mrs. Reed said she never received a cent. The preacher told her he was taking out so much for room and board, church dues and other things. What was left the minister was supposedly keeping to build a home for the sect, the woman related.

MRS. REED ALSO claimed she never left the farm household unless accompanied by a



# Social Security Benefits Now Cover Regularly Employed Domestic Workers

Those Earning \$50 While Working 24 Days Quarterly Will Draw Funds on Retirement

A boon to domestic workers, which is apt to be regarded as a headache both to the workers and to their employers, is the extension of social security coverage, as of Jan. 1, to household employees.

Previously unprotected by social security, now maids, laundresses, cooks, housekeepers, gardeners, janitors, furnacemen, handymen, practical nurses, valets, governesses, butlers and chauffeurs will receive aid from the government after they reach age 65.

Also under the plan, the families of those covered household employees who die before reaching age 65 will receive payments from the social security contributions.

## Program Tax Established

This social security aid, however, will not be a government contribution. It must be paid for by a tax levied upon the employer and employee both and present to the extent of 1 and one-half per cent of the individual worker's salary.

That is, the employee pays 1 one-half per cent of his salary through wage deductions and the employer pays a matching 1 and one-half per cent of his salary to total 3 percent, which the employer must pay to the government at least every quarter.

Special simplified forms, Form 944 and Form 942, printed on the back of a return envelope, are provided for employers to make their initial and quarterly reports upon. The monies collected as taxes are payable on or before April 30, July 31, Oct. 31 and Jan. 31.

## 24 Days, \$50 Basis

The quarterly report system is used because eligibility of workers for coverage is figured out on a quarterly basis. Servants must have worked at least 24 days in a given quarter or have earned at least \$50 in the quarter to be included under social security.

It is important for both employ-

ees and employers to realize that if in any calendar quarter the employee is paid less than \$50 in cash wages, no tax is due for the quarter on that employee's wages, regardless of the number of days worked.

If the employee performed household services for one employer on less than 24 days in the quarter and did not perform such service on 24 or more days in the preceding quarter, no tax is due regardless of the amount of wages paid the worker in the quarter.

## Penalty for Late Filing

The law provides a penalty of at least \$5 for late filing unless reasonable cause is shown for the delay. If a householder is unavoidably late in filing a return, she should send a written explanation along with her return.

For additional information about the new social security coverage for household employers, householders and employees are urged to go or write to their regional social security offices.

# New, Broader Social Security Plan Starts

10 Million More Now Are Covered

BY MAURDEEN GOTHLIN  
United Press Staff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3—A bigger, broader—and costlier—Federal Social Security program went into effect today.

The expanded program will add 10,000,000 workers and their families to the 35,000,000 already covered by the system. This means that about 75 per cent of the nation's labor force will be protected. Beginning today, the government

will start taxing up to \$3600 of an employee's yearly earnings instead of only the first \$3000—a maximum of \$54 a year in Social Security taxes instead of the previous maximum of \$45. But the tax rate for all but self-employed will remain the same—1½ per cent paid by the worker and ½ per cent paid by the employer.

## Benefits Increased

Retirement and survivors' benefits were increased an average of 77½ per cent effective last Sept. 1. For example, the minimum monthly retirement benefit for workers 65 years old was boosted then from \$10 to \$20 and the individual maximum monthly benefits jumped from \$46 to \$68.50.

Effective today, the maximum individual retirement benefits will jump from \$68.50 to \$80 a month for workers who have to pay more Social Security taxes.

Retirement benefits for a married worker will range from \$30 to a maximum of \$120 a month. For married workers with children under 18 years old the retirement benefits will range from \$40 to a maximum of \$150 a month.

## Death Payments Raised

Maximum death benefits are \$120 a month for a widow and one child; \$150 a month for a widow and two or more children; \$60 a month for a childless widow 65 years old or older, and \$60 a month for a dependent parent 65 years old or older.

Benefits are based on earnings and the number of years worked. To be eligible for benefits, a person must have paid Social Security taxes over a period of 18 months, or for six three-month periods.

Benefits are not paid automatically when a worker reaches the retirement age or dies. Application must be made to the local Social Security office.

The 10,000,000 newcomers to the Social Security system include 4,700,000 self-employed persons, 850,000 farm workers and 200,000 workers in food processing plants, 1,000,000 household workers, 15,000 Americans working outside the United States, 250,000 federal employees, 400,000 workers in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and others.

## Self-Employed Pay 2½%

All of these except the self-employed must pay the 1½ Social Security tax. Newly covered self-employed workers must pay 2½

per cent.

Some 600,000 employees of non-profit institutions and 1,450,000 state and local government employees who have no retirement plans are expected to come under Social Security coverage. The decision will be up to the employees and the state and local governments.

Under the broadened coverage, farm workers and domestic servants must meet certain qualifications to get continuous credit toward benefits. Both must earn \$50 in every three-month period beginning today.

## Must Stay A While

A farm worker must stick to one employer for five months to get in on the program and work 60 days in each three-month period. If he changes farms, he has to work three months before he again starts to get Social Security credit.

Household servants must work two days a week for the same employer in each three-month period to get credit.

Most self-employed persons will be covered by the broadened program except certain professional groups including lawyers, medical men, engineers, architects, accountants, funeral directors and farm operators.

# Courier to Help Workers Gain Social Security

WASHINGTON—You are entitled to Federal old age and survivors insurance payments of at least \$50 a month when you are too old to work. Your family will continue to receive the government checks when you die.

Under the amended Social Security Act, the following household workers come under its protection:

Maids, gardeners, furnacemen, cooks, housekeepers, practical nurses, housekeepers, butlers, valets, grooms, footmen, private chauffeurs and others.

## EVASIONS BARED

The Courier has uncovered widespread evasion of the law by housewives and other domestic employers. It is determined that every domestic employee be insured and that violators be forced to comply with the law.

Otherwise, millions of domestic workers will be robbed of old age

income to which they are entitled; income which will amount to millions of dollars annually over the years.

Negroes are glad to assume their full responsibilities as citizens. They must not be denied the benefits of citizenship.

Here is how you become eligible for the old-age income:

Your employer deducts 1½ per cent from your wages each week. The employer's contribution is an equal amount. At the end of each calendar quarter, the employer fills out a form No. 942 which is supplied by the local Collector of Internal Revenue, and forwards it with the total amount deducted from your wages and contributed by the employer, to the Collector.

If you are employed as a domestic worker, and are not now covered by the Social Security Act, send the following information to:

The Social Security Editor

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh 19, Pa.

Your name, address and occupation. Your employer's name, address and occupation. The name of the Collector of Internal

Revenue for your district. You will receive help.

Next Week: Questions and answers about the Social Security Act, which will benefit you. Everything you should know.

FOR PART-TIME WORKERS  
If you are a part-time worker, you are still entitled to coverage under the Act.

1. If you are paid at least \$50 in cash wages during the three month period, and  
2. You work at least twenty four different days during that period, or the period before it.

## WHAT TO DO



# Widow Denied Social Security, NAACP Opens Probe in S. C.

**NEW YORK**—Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the NAACP, advised the social security editor of the Courier this week that "all documents in the case of Mrs. Lettie Adair have been rushed to our lawyer in South Carolina, with instructions to vigorously prosecute it." He said that "We will keep you advised on developments," and congratulated the Courier on its "great humanitarian campaign" to alleviate human suffering.

WASHINGTON—No human tragedy is more appalling than that of the widow who is left penniless because an avaricious, inhuman employer refused to contribute towards her husband's social security. **MRS. ADAIR'S CASE**

Under the Social Security Act, amended in 1950, which the employer violated, both he and his employees must contribute 1½ per cent of the employees' weekly wages, which is sent every quarter to the local Collector of Internal Revenue.

## TAKEN FOR GRANTED

In many cases, the widow only \$1.12 reported to his account. knows that her husband has a "He must have been employed Social Security card and number; on jobs covered by the law and believes that this is sufficient. For have received wages of \$50 or some reason neither makes sure more in at least six calendar that the employer "covered" the quarters after 1936," the letter employe. read.

She is confident that when he is too old to work, or at 65, he will receive at least \$50 a month, and that when he passes on and her children under eighteen will receive that and more. Otherwise, her late husband was required to have earned \$300 after 1936 for her to be eligible for the payments. Later, Mrs. Adair received another letter:

Unfortunately, many husbands work for a number of employers over the years. In most cases they are paid weekly in cash, so that they receive no record of Social Security payments by the employer. They are not paid enough to save for old age, so that invariably Social Security payments from the Government are their only source of income when too old to work.

## BURIAL EXPENSES

In certain cases, the widow of a fully insured employe is entitled to a lump sum for burial expenses when he dies. In addition she receives the monthly payments.

Imagine the catastrophe which befalls a widow, who finds when she applies to the local Social Security office, that her husband was not insured by his employer, or that he had not made enough payments over the years of employment, for her to qualify.

The Courier has received many heart-breaking letters from such widows.

"Since his wage record shows he did not meet these requirements no payment may be made, based on his record."

## OIL MILL WORKER

Mrs. Adair claims her husband worked for the Clinton Oil Mill in 1937, '38 and '39.

She further claims that he worked for Henderson Pitts, foreman, who supplied the Social Security office with the \$1.12 figure.

Mrs. Adair also reports to the Courier that her brother, Walter

Shell, worked for five local companies during 1937 and 1938.

The Social Security office wrote her: "Your brother did not have sufficient number of quarters of coverage to be insured and there can be no benefit."

Mrs. Adair's case has been turned over to Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel, for investigation and possible legal action.

Now is the time for every wife to make sure her employed husband is covered under the Social Security Act.

If his employer will not inform him, she can find out from her local Social Security office, under the Federal Security Agency.

If your husband's employer refuses to insure him, notify the Courier and your local Collector of Internal Revenue. You will receive help.

"This is with reference to your several visits to the employment office in Clinton, S. C., on the dates that a representative from this office (Social Security office) was there to inquire regarding your possible entitlement to widow's insurance benefits based on the earnings of your deceased husband, Lawrence Adair.

"We wrote you a letter on June 14 advising you that your deceased husband's wage record had only \$1.12 credited to it.

**"IF HE WAS EMPLOYED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT PRIOR TO HIS DEATH, HIS EMPLOYER APPARENTLY FAILED TO REPORT HIS EARNINGS IN THIS CONNECTION.**

"According to the requirements of the Social Security Act he must have worked in six calendar quarters after Dec. 31, 1936, and earned at least \$50 in each such quarter to be insured.

WASHINGTON—Since it began its campaign to make sure that every eligible Negro in the United States is insured under the Social Security Act, the Courier has discovered many cases indicating that employers are violating the law, by refusing to contribute to the fund and deduct an equal amount from the employees' wages.

This is particularly true of domestic help and farm workers who were included in the benefits last year. ~~Through the courageous and persistent efforts of~~ the NAACP.

The Courier wants every domestic and farm worker to be insured under the law, so that when they are too old to work or become 65 they will receive at least \$50 a month, or if they die, their widows will receive the pension.

## NAACP INVESTIGATING

Several weeks ago, the NAACP threw its nation-wide facilities into this campaign. Representatives from local branches now are investigating the cases of all those who wrote to the Courier.

If today's young domestic and farm workers could read some of the tragic letters from old folks desperately appealing for help to be paid in, you become insured for life.

hold, body and soul together until they would make sure that they are insured under the law.

Many of these writers are in their sixties and seventies; are too ill to work and have no one to take their place. The following, who have written for the Courier, will be contacted by a local representative of the NAACP, to determine if they can be contacted.

**TO BE CONTACTED**

**KENTUCKY:** David Robards, 2418 West Madison, Louisville.

**LOUISIANA:** Lawrence Taylor, Route 1, Box 27, Franklinton; Rodney Magee, Route 1, Box 41, Franklinton; Minnie Simmons Williams, General Delivery, Franklinton, and Ellis Warner, Route 5, Box 144, Franklinton.

MISSISSIPPI: Frank Thompson, 119 West Davis Street; Joe Davis, Box 58, Tralake; Marlo Pool, Coahoma; Rufus Bell, 703 South Sixth Avenue, Laurel, and Ed Easley, 723 North Nineteenth Street, Columbus.

MISSOURI: Birdie Burrell, 2826 Clark Avenue, St. Louis, and Bertha Bagby, Box 12, Netherlands.

Asheville, and Mrs. Candy M. Pugh,  
414 First Avenue, Hickory.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Mrs. Nettle Lad-  
son, Conway; Angle Adams, Four Hales,  
and Pres Alston, General Delivery,  
Winnsboro.

TENNESSEE: Jennie White, 423 West Alley, Jackson; Mrs. J. W. Jones, 826½ West Main Street, Chattanooga 3; Miss Frankie Summers, 1704 East Bethel Avenue, Knoxville; Mrs. Annie Bell Jones, 251 South Street, Jackson; Davis, 102 Hickory Avenue, Memphis, and Joe Green, 919 North Main Street, Memphis 7.

they are eligible for the pension:

ALABAMA: Mrs. Stella Jones, 23 South College Street, Prichard, and Will King, 704 South Happy Hill, Plateau.

ARKANSAS: Jim Jones, 1107 North Tenth Street, Fort Smith; Sinkfield Culbreath, Route 1, 147B, Partiano; and Orange Williams, Route 3, Box 108-A, Pine Bluff.

CALIFORNIA: William Van Alston.

CALIFORNIA: Winland.  
1108 Eighty-six Avenue, Oakland.  
FLORIDA: Lena Cathoun, 1410 West  
Fourteenth Street, Jacksonville; Mitch  
Jacobs, RFD 1, Box 114, Greensboro;  
Bertha Thomas, 720 Avondale Street, Or-  
lando; James Jordan, 408 West Washing-  
ton Street, Orlando; Minnie Long, Route  
1, Box 141A, Kissimmee; Jim Jordan,  
Route 2, Box 72, Quincy; Manor Wright,  
Route 3, Box 262, Madison; J. H. Wil-  
liams, Station, Belle Glade; Mrs.  
Mattie Pierce, 1135 Grothe Street, Jack-  
sonville; Carolina Richardson, 5 Hutchins  
Lane, Key West; Will Albert, General  
Delivery, Delray; May Lee Robinson,  
Route 1, Box 33D, Gainesville; Andy  
Gillmore, Martin; Mrs. Sallie B. Newton,  
1723 Northwest Sixty-third Street, Miami  
47; and Annie Brown, General Delivery,  
Eustis, care of Attorney Brown.

GEORGIA: Dollie Dassan, General Delivery, Brixton; Mrs. Clara Newman, Box 83, Chester; John Holder, 409 Pearl Street, Ashburn; Frances Anderson, 39 N. E. R. Street, Canulla; Charlie Walters, Baconton; Willie Rivers, 218 Cemetery Street, Decatur; Monzetta Washington, Box 276, Dahonah; Green H. Hill, Route 2, Box 74, Warwick; Little Carroll, 508 Kennedy Street, Atlanta, and Oscar Jones, 3210 North Side Drive, Atlanta.

**Courier, NAACP Probe  
Social Security Aid Bids**



## Mr. Whitfield's Picketed Pickles



Tractor-drawn Train  
By Joe Azbell Of The Advertiser Staff

THE violence filled strike at the W. & W. Pickle Co. on North Court Street entered its second month this week with no settlement in sight.

About 80 members of Local 309, United Packing House Workers of America (C.I.O.) under the leadership of Erma and Kerma Trice and UPHWA's field representative, Ada Lee Howell, Birmingham, are taking part in the strike at the big plant. With the exception of five white women, all of the strikers are Negroes.

Although it was originally reported that the union members voted 100 to 7 in favor of a strike resolution, Mrs. Howell stated that the union members voted 100% to strike.

They have converted a Negro restaurant across from the plant into union strike headquarters. Here groceries, money for rent, lights, water, gas, insurance, and other expenses are being furnished to strikers by contributing locals in Montgomery, Birmingham, Chapman, and Mobile, and the international union.

"We're buying the groceries wholesale from the Sellers Grocery Co. and the meat from Armour & Co.," Kerma Trice, president of the local 309, said. "The workers have told me they are eating better than they do when they buy their stuff with money the company pays 'em."



AZBELL

The union members decided to strike on Aug. 2 after the W. & W. Pickle Co. officials reportedly told them they were unwilling to submit to their demands for these things:

- (1) 10 cents an hour increase in wages.
- (2) A seniority system.
- (3) One week's vacation with pay for employees who have been with the company for a year.
- (4) Two weeks' vacation with pay for employees who have been with the company for five years.
- (5) Four national holidays a year without loss of pay.

The morale of the strikers was described as "very high" by Kerma Trice. "We are determined to win this strike," she said. "We are prepared, if necessary, to stay on this picket line for six months or a year to win out."

"Scab" charges fly thick and fast around the plant and all of the employees who have been hired since the



MRS. HOWELL

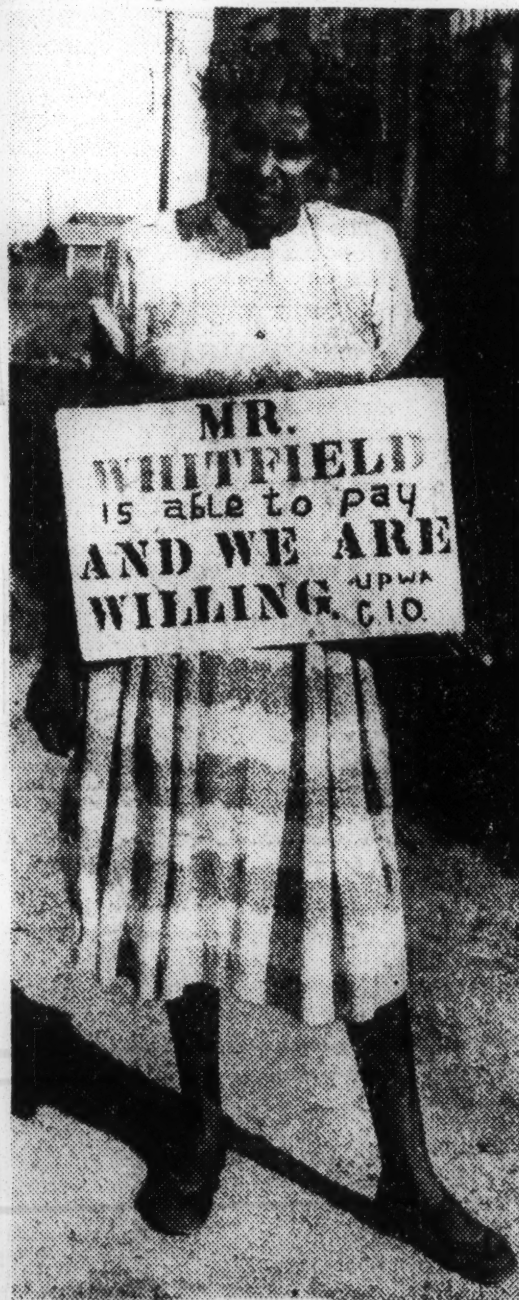


ESSIE PEDWAY

## Alabama

strike began have had the label plastered to their names by the union. About two-thirds of the union members went on strike. The company employs about 120 persons at this season.

"The Montgomery police told us not to call the workers 'scabs,'" Mrs. Howell said, "but that's what Webster calls 'em—scabs. That's what they are and the dictionary will prove it. I can't see why the police department should object to us calling those people what the dictionary says they are. Anyway, we feel that the police have been exceedingly unfair to our union. They are taking up for the company. The police have re-



A PICKET

fused to let the pickets talk to persons crossing the picket line. We feel this is a violation of our rights."

## Mrs. Howell's Gat

SINCE the strike started, police have

recorded on their books the following incidents:

1. The beating of non-union workers.
2. One house, occupied by a non-union worker, being fired by unknown persons.
3. The arrest and conviction of Mrs. Howell for carrying a pistol without a permit.
4. An official order being circulated to warn union members not to trade with the Wells Grocery Co.
5. The slashing of the tires of a non-union workers who had been attending St. Jude's School.
6. The destruction of \$5,000 in pickles by a gallon of kerosene being dumped into a pickle vat.

Mrs. Howell admitted that some of the union members have been arrested for assault and battery and for disorderly conduct. But she said that "some of the things that have happened in the plant are phony acts intended to discredit the union."

As to her own arrest, she said that an original charge placed against her by a Negro driver who charged her with "disorderly conduct" was thrown out by the court, but that she was charged with having a pistol without a license because her permit has run out a few days ago. She was fined \$50 and costs but has appealed the case along with the assault and battery cases.

The State Pardon & Parole Board reportedly has admitted that some parolees are working for the pickle company. Originally, the *Alabama News Digest*, a Birmingham CIO newspaper, said that six parolees were told that they had been instructed by the State Parole Board "to either go to work in the plant or be sent back to jail".

G. R. Hathaway, a top regional CIO official, has charged that the company "is creating incidents for which they try to blame the union members and are having little success in this direction."

## The Knives

ESSIE PEDWAY, Negro, who is one of the union negotiators, said that there will be no violence on the picket line as she personally "had collected" all the knives of the union members and has them in a drawer in Club 23, the union strike headquarters.

## Red Supporter

L. B. WHITFIELD, JR., president of the W. & W. Co., stated that all jobs are filled and the plant is operating at 100% capacity.

Union Leader Howell said she did not believe this. The number of workers, she said, "going into the plant leads us to believe they are only operating about 50%."

Kerma Trice, who besides being president of the plant local is also secretary-treasurer, said that she started to work in the plant seven years ago at 40c an hour. Later her pay was raised to 45c



and still later to 75c after a change in the government wage & hour standards. "I've worked at three places and I suppose you could say I get paid more at the plant here than I was ever paid at the other jobs. I got 40c an hour working at the I. Lewis Cigar Plant in Selma and I got \$14 a week working for the Ideal Laundry. But living costs have gone up and we need the 10c an hour increase."

Her sister, Erma, said she had worked at the same places at the same wages. The sisters claim that they are paying for a home, buying groceries and meeting other living costs and "that's hard to do on our wages."

The twin women, daughters of a Baptist preacher, formerly lived in Autauga



ERMA

KERMA

and Chilton Counties. They have been residents of Montgomery for seven years.

"This is the second time I've exercised myself publicly on something," Kerma said. "The other time I was a supporter and a campaigner for Red James for Congress. I got out and tried to get him votes."

### Ralph King, Private Eye

THE union is operating three shifts of picketeers. There is a morning, afternoon and night shift. They picket until 11 at night and claim that until the strike occurred there were never night watchmen at the plant.

"Now they got a whole bunch of them over there headed by the ex-Chief of Police Ralph King. They watch us like hawks, thinking we're going to do something."

Answering a question, Kerma said that she thinks that "the worse part of the strike is yet to come. I haven't worried too much myself, but we called police a couple of times when we heard prowlers around my house."

"Does it make you feel strange or has anyone said anything about you, as a white woman, leading this group of Negroes in the strike?" the union president was asked.

"No, I don't feel strange. I eat right here in the cafe with them and they've been orderly. No one has said anything about it to me," she replied.

John Henry Hall, an Atlanta Negro union official, is in charge of dispensing the groceries and expense money to the strikers. He also distributes the union newspapers to the workers and the last

two issues of the Birmingham CIO newspaper have placed the strike in headlines.

### Tractor Train

THE pickle plant, despite union claims that production is not as high as ordinary, has had more railroad cars and trucks rolling in and out of its plant than there would be if production was not at full force, observers along Court Street said.

A transportation problem popped up after the strikers placed a picket line around the plant. Railroad workers, who usually bring the freight cars to the trackside beside the plant, refused to cross the picket lines.

The company, therefore, was forced to take the step of using a large tractor to pull the boxcars from the railroad tracks across the picket lines to the company trackside docks and back again. The union charges that this is a sort of "private railroad". When trains pull up toward the plant, the picketeers on North Court Street rush to the tracks to make certain that railroad employees recognize them as picketeers.

The tractor arrangement has worked out satisfactorily, according to company officials, and it has not curtailed the shipment of products made in the plant.

The picketeers are using all types of slogans on their placards from accusations against Mr. Whitfield to statements such as "Don't Be A Scab—You'll Live!"

The company, Fred Ball, vice-president, said, is not being bothered by the picketeers except that they are "a nuisance".

"As far as we are concerned, they are just walking around in the hot sun for nothing. We had a contract with them last year and we were perfectly willing to renew the contract. But we were not willing to submit to all of their demands."

Some of the white women who are on strike apparently don't care for the jobs as "picketeers."

"A couple of the white women are staying at home away from work, but they aren't in the picket line," Kerma Trice said.

Since the strike started Aug. 2, only one union member has gone back to work, Kerma said.

"But the ones like Ross Ford, who has been working there for 24 years and Myra Douglas, who worked there 18 years, are still out here with us and we intend to get our demands," she said.

Mrs. Howell, who said she had been arrested once before on another strike, has led strikes at the packing plants in Birmingham and Mobile. She has been with the CIO since 1939.

### Store Boycotted

AROUND the corner from the plant, the small yellow painted grocery store of the Wells Family has been feeling the sharp end of the strike although the Wells Family said that they "are neutral and have not taken sides with either group."

Despite the neutrality, Mrs. Howell said that the Wells had stated that "they didn't want any of those damn pickets around their stores."

Thereupon, Mrs. Howell said, an official letter was sent to UPHWA members urging these things:

"We call upon our friends to assist us in our efforts to win this strike! We see no reason to support our enemies and in this connection we advise you that the Wells Grocery Store has indicated their desire to be completely against our members. We therefore request UPHWA members and their friends to refrain from trading with the Wells Grocery Store."

"We are advised that Mr. and Mrs. Wells have indicated they do not want any W. & W. Pickle Company members in their store and we certainly do not want our members to patronize merchants who are as bitter against our membership as these people seem to be. Remember, do not trade with the Wells Grocery Store!"

The order was signed by D. R. Hathaway, regional union official.

Members of the Wells Family said that they would welcome the trade of any person, union or non-union, and that they have never made any statements against the union or the union workers."

The order of the union, members of the family said, has hurt their business.

### Constabulary Watches

MONTGOMERY police are keeping an eye on activities of the union members during the strike and members of the police department were on the scene Tuesday watching activities.

As the company continues at full operation and strikers continue their picketing, the feeling of insecurity among people living in the vicinity of the plant has increased.

"I wish they would get over their troubles so I can rest in peace at night," one woman said. "With all the trouble they have had over the strike, it makes a person a little afraid to live in this part of town."



# Railmen Quit In 2 Cities, Jam Service

Post Office  
Operations Affected

Q-10 Lines  
1-31-51

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A spreading work stoppage of railroad switchmen hit freight and passenger rail movements in Chicago and Detroit Tuesday.

Operations were affected on at least 10 railroads—seven in Chicago and three in Detroit.

A pileup of freight—the second time in six weeks—began when the

## TRAINS OPERATING HERE

All trains out of Birmingham were reported to be still operating last night. There were no strikes, walkouts, work stoppages or "train sickness" on any of the lines, according to spokesmen.

switchmen went home reporting they were sick, or failed to show up.

The New York Central Railroad announced it is cancelling eight passenger trains and through passenger trains and through passenger service between New York City and the West Coast.

Although its switchmen did not join in the walkout, the NYC said it could not operate the trains from the Illinois Central 12th-st station.

## Walkout May Spread

A spokesman for W. P. Kennedy, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, said there were "indications" the walkout might spread to Washington, D. C., Portland, Ore., Atlanta and Pittsburgh.

In Chicago, the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad, which handles freight for 28 railroads and 400 big Chicago industries, declared an embargo on freight as the walkout hit the line Tuesday afternoon.

The 123-mile line is a vital link in movement of through freight to all sections of the country.

It was the second similar walkout of the Winter for yard workers, who have been involved in a long dispute with the carriers over wages and hours.

A brotherhood spokesman in Washington accused the railroads of provoking the current walkout, and said the Truman administration

is "aiding and abetting" the railroads.

## Rail Workers Angry

He said the wage-price freeze, coupled with an advertising campaign in which the railroad managements declared a December "memorandum of agreement" was a binding contract, had stirred the railroad workers into indignation.

The spokesman told a reporter, however, that the walkouts are unauthorized and union leaders are "doing everything in their power to get the men back on the job."

The Justice Department said in Washington it was watching the situation. The department brought injunction proceedings against the Trainmen's Union during the December walkout. It also started a contempt action in Chicago Federal Court. The cases are set for hearing in Chicago Friday.

An Army spokesman in Chicago said the switchmen are "striking at vital belt lines and fixing it so nobody can get rid of their freight."

At Detroit, the roads affected were the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Wabash.

# Costly Railroad Strike Virtually Ended After Army's Work Ultimatum

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One of the longest and most costly rail strikes in history was all but over today, and all mail service was restored.

The Postoffice Department directed all postoffices to resume normal mail service, ending various reductions that were put into effect while train operations were disrupted.

The Army's threat to fire striking switchmen was regarded as the main factor in breaking up the 10-day "sick" walkout.

The work stoppage continued in a few spots across the country. But generally there was a full-scale return to work—notably in Chicago, the country's No. 1 rail center.

Indications were that all strikers will be back on the job before the

4 p. m. (EST) deadline set by the army in its "work or be fired" ultimatum.

Thousands didn't wait for the deadline to return to work. The switchmen—who also were promised a pay raise—flocked back to their jobs in large numbers, joining the thousands who had returned to work earlier this week.

The Army has been in technical control of the carriers since the government seized them last Aug. 27 to halt a threatened strike.

The reaction in Chicago, one of the major hold-out areas, was swift. Nearly 100 per cent of the striking switchmen reported for work Thursday night, compared to about 20 per cent on the early morning shift Thursday.

The early morning shift today on 25 railroads in Chicago also had nearly 100 per cent working crews, the Army's railroad control board said. Of 1,558 men normally on the job, 1,507 reported for work. An Army spokesman said the 51 off duty was "about normal."

There were similar reports from many other cities where the work stoppage had continued during the week. Only a few scattered points reported switchmen planned to remain away from work today.

The switchmen returned to work faced with the gigantic task of helping to unscramble the jammed freight yards. An estimated 700,000 of the nation's 2,000,000 freight cars had been tied up during the walkout, which started in Chicago and Detroit on Jan. 30.





*Inquirer June 2-4-57*  
**ARMS TIEUP** Tanks slated for shipment to the armed forces overseas lie idle along with other freight cargoes in the rail yards at Jer-

(AP Wirephoto)

sey City, N. J. The paralyzing nation-wide rail strike already has made 160,000 workers idle and continues to grow worse as Federal mediators strive for a settlement.



# Woman Is Killed In Strike Riot

## Georgia National Guard Is Asked After Pickets Overturn Auto In Violence At Textile Mill

SUMMERVILLE, Ga., June 18 (AP)—Pickets turned over an automobile full of women workers at the strike-troubled Berryton Mills today, killing one occupant, and Sheriff Ruben Lyons called for National Guard help.

Twelve persons, six of them women, were arrested and charged with murder after survivors of the upset car identified them as members of the CIO textile workers picket line who "handled" the vehicle.

Reinforced Georgia Highway Patrolmen drew their guns to prevent the group from turning over a second car, witnesses said and the violence subsided.

### Troopers Move In

More than 20 troopers had arrived by the time the single shift of workers—some 100 of the mill's normal 300 employees—left the plant. Except for catcalls from the picket line, there was no further trouble.

Deputies, however, picked three men out of the line and arrested them on murder charges in connection with the death of Miss Nellie Tucker, 45, bringing the number jailed on the charges 12.

Sheriff Lyons of Chattooga County, fearing that "this thing is going to get worse," appealed directly to Gov. Herman Talmadge to send National Guardsmen to safeguard lives and property.

Talmadge, however, said that he did not wish to send troops to Summerville except as a "last resort."

### But Stage Develops

"We felt that with the help of the State Patrol we had the strike under control until this morning it reached the riot stage," Lyons said.

About 7:45 this morning, the sheriff said, a flurry of violence began and was climaxed with the death of Miss Tucker, a non-striker, in the auto wrecking incident.

The union called a strike two weeks ago after failing to get together with Berryton Mills, Inc., on a contract. The CIO union had won two collective bargaining elections for the right to represent 300 production and maintenance employees.



# Dockmen To Ship Vital War Goods

Post-Herald  
Oct. 18-30-51

Otherwise Strike

Picture Unchanged

NEW YORK, Oct. 29 (AP)—Rebel dock strikers loosed their grip on military piers tonight, promising to end a wildcat tieup of vital defense shipments to Army outposts.

Elsewhere, stevedore pickets held sway on miles of idle non-military piers as the big strike went into its third week. A back-to-work move all but flopped during the day.

Most military piers have worked off and on, with volunteer hands sworn in under Civil Service to take the place of strikers. Pickets have interrupted cargo handling frequently, however.

Brig. Gen. Edward M. Lastayo said he agreed to get rid of the Civil Service dock labor—hired when the tieup of military supplies was at its height.

In return, he said, strikers assured him they are "prepared to work all cargoes for our military forces overseas and mutual defense assistance cargoes . . ."

There are military piers at Brooklyn, Staten Island, Jersey City, Bayonne and Earle, N. J. All worked today except in Jersey City.

The back to work move fizzled except for one non-military Manhattan pier where wildcat picket lines were breached.

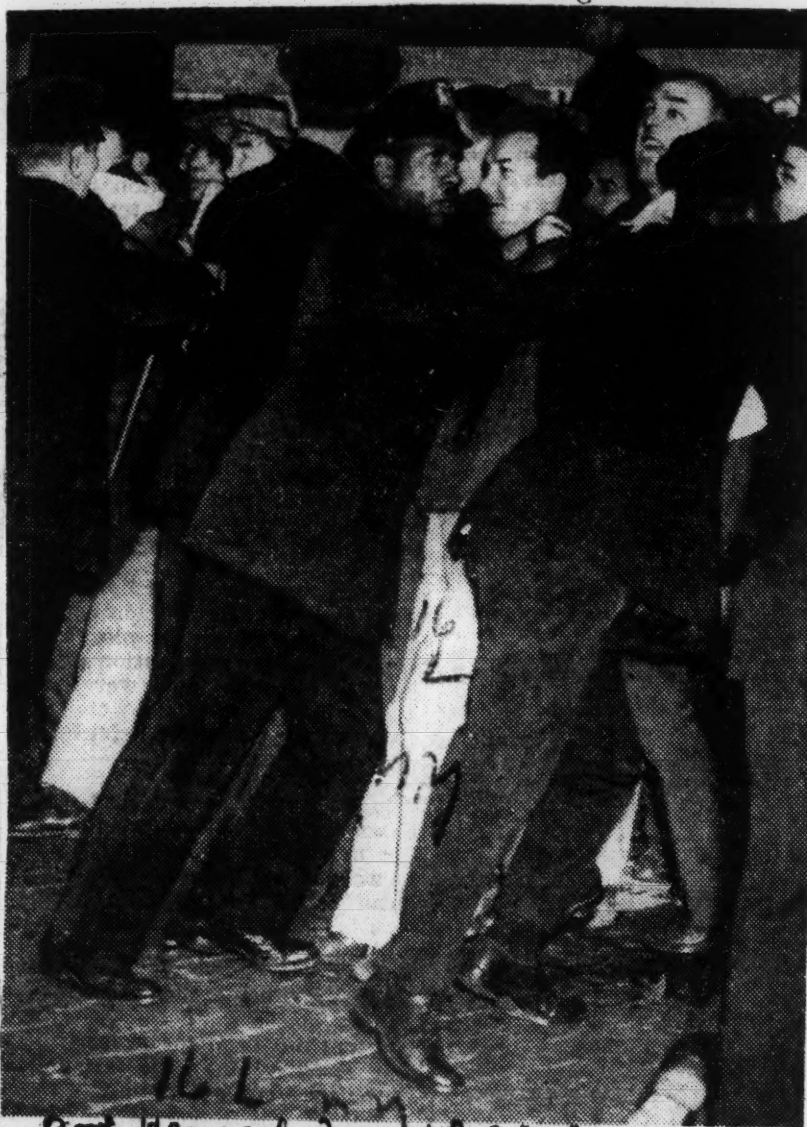
As the back to work balloon collapsed, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey sent his state mediators onto the scene, where local and federal peacemakers have failed.

From 20,000 to 30,000 rebel strikers are in revolt against Joseph P. Ryan, president of the AFL International Longshoremen's Assn., who has fought the strike from the outset. He recently signed a wage contract, which raised wages 10 cents an hour. The rebels want a 25-cent raise and other improvements.

Mayor Vincent Impellitteri was accused by pro-Ryan non-strikers of soft-peddaling his police force for the benefit of the wildcat forces. Impellitteri's administrative aide, Frank Sampson, is a brother of Strike Leader Gene Sampson. Replied the mayor:

"There is absolutely nothing to the charge."

Stevedores in Portland, Me., and Philadelphia went back to work over the week-end, after quitting in sympathy with the New York strikers.



Post-Herald  
Oct. 18-30-51  
POLICE RESTRAIN PICKETS

New York police lock arms to hold back angry longshoremen pickets at Pier 90 yesterday when some 100 stevedores unloaded the liner Queen Elizabeth. Union President Joseph Ryan's "back to work" movement failed, however. (Post-Herald Acme Telephoto.)



16m 1951

American Labor Education Service

**Labor Leader to Study**  
**Unions in Scandinavia**



Mrs. Maida S. Springer

The American-Scandinavian Foundation announced yesterday that it would be the sponsor, with the American Labor Education Service, of a visit to Denmark and Sweden of Mrs. Maida S. Springer, an executive of Local 22 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, to study trade union methods.

Mrs. Springer was one of four women who spent a month in England in 1945 in a Government-backed exchange of trade unionists. This is the third year in which American trade unionists are visiting Scandinavia under the Foundation's sponsorship.



# UNION IS DIRECTED TO ADMIT NEGROES

Connecticut Civil Rights Board  
Accuses It of Discrimination  
in Barring Two Applicants

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 17—

The Connecticut Commission on Civil Rights issued an order today directing the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, A. F. L., Local 35, to admit two Negroes to its union membership list. The commission charged that the union discriminated against the applicants by refusing admittance to them.

Leo Parsley of Hartford, a lawyer, is chairman of a three-member tribunal that began hearings on the case in March. Under Connecticut law, the union may appeal the finding to the superior court.

The complaints against the union were brought by Mansfield T. Tilley and Warren B. Stewart, both of Hartford. More than 1,400 pages of testimony were taken during the hearings. The commission issued a finding directing that the union "cease and desist from excluding" the complainants from "full membership because of race."

"The history of the union shows a pattern of discrimination against Negroes," the finding said. "No Negroes have ever been admitted into the union. The union admits that the complainants were excluded but claims that their exclusion was justified. It contends that the complainants did not meet the eligibility requirements established by the local union for their admission as apprentices, first, because they were too old, second, because they were not sponsored by an employer."

The tribunal rejected the claims of the union.

"The union has given preference to sons and other relatives of members," it added. "The inbreeding which such nepotism nurtures may discriminate against some white persons but Negroes are thereby excluded from membership absolutely. The evil created by arbitrary admissions practices is that they permit the very discrimination which the act seeks to prevent."

The finding went on to say that "the union did not act" on the applications of the two Negroes "nor

did it inform the complainants of its failure to act."

"On two occasions other than those concerning the complainants the union had an opportunity to admit Negroes to its membership," the finding said. "On each such occasion the union declined to do so."



## Sea Pact Reached On Negroes' Jobs

Negroes will be fully employed by the maritime industry as the result of an agreement reached between the AFL Seafarers International Union and the New York State Commission Against Discrimination.

In a joint announcement yesterday, the union and the commission said all complaints had been adjusted as a result of protests from 21 members of a group who said they had been subjected to discrimination.

## SEAFARERS' UNION ENDS RACIAL BIAS

Agreement With State Agency  
Covers Negro Workers in  
Stewards' Department

Agreement has been reached between the New York State Commission Against Discrimination and the Seafarers International Union, A. F. L., on the employment of Negroes in the maritime industry.

A joint announcement yesterday by Edward W. Edwards, chairman of the commission, and Paul Hall, first vice president of the Seafarers Union, said all complaints had been satisfactorily adjusted. The investigation into the union's employment practices came as the result of complaints by twenty-one members of the group who alleged discrimination because of color.

An understanding was reached, it was explained, on a basis whereby the union agreed that applications for membership, work permits, job referrals and transfers, as between the departments of the union, should be considered and acted upon without regard to the race, creed, color or national origin of the applicant.

It was pointed out that in the past the policy of the union had been to divide ships into "colored" and "white" classifications for the steward's department, with men assigned to ships on a color basis. Under the new agreement, however, all such classifications will be eliminated, it was added.

Under the new system, it was explained, each member of the steward's department will appear on the shipping list in ordinary rotation regardless of race or any other considerations. This routine

already prevails in the deck and engine departments of the union.

The agreement, which relates only to the operations of the union within this state, concludes with an arrangement whereby the union will cooperate with the commission by furnishing such information as the agency may require to determine compliance with the agreement and with the law against discrimination.

Mr. Hall asserted that although the agreement was binding only within the jurisdiction of the state agency, the union would voluntarily adopt the same shipping procedure in its port branches in other states. He added that several union units on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts already had acted favorably on the proposal, and others had scheduled it for early consideration. Mr. Hall also is secretary-treasurer of the union's Atlantic and Gulf District, and as such is the district's chief official.



# Move Hits New Locals; Old Units Under Fire

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The American Federation of Teachers, AFL, voted here last week at its annual convention to direct its executive council not to charter any new locals that practice racial discrimination.

The delegates voted 142 to 42 for the action following 90 minutes of bitter debate. The action reinforced a resolution adopted a day earlier directing 44 segregated locals, most of which are in the South, to work toward the elimination of racial bars.

The first resolution pointed out that the federation's constitution forbade any discrimination on racial or religious grounds. Thus, the federation's executive council, in chartering new locals, must act in strict accordance with the national organization's constitution.

## Voices Opposition

Irving E. Fullington, president of Local 563 of Birmingham, attacked the amendment and warned that its adoption would hamper the organization of teachers in the South.

Fullington drew laughter and applause even from those delegates who opposed his stand when he declared:

"You people are just as provincial as any people in the country. Sometimes I think you are the most damnably ignorant people in the country about sections South of the Ohio river. Even a hillbilly knows more about other sections than you do."

Opposing Fullington's views was Mrs. Helen Moore Polaner of Detroit Local 231, which has pushed the fight against segregation.

## Teachers' segregation proposal unclear

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Aug. 23 —(P)—Race restrictions on membership in the AFL teachers union apparently remain to be clarified.

The convention of the AFL American Federation of Teachers took a step against segregation yesterday, but the final outcome was not clear.

The union's executive board was ordered to grant no more charters to locals which segregate races.

It was pointed out, however, that other proposals which might take precedence were still pending on

the convention agenda. The union has 44 locals, mostly in the South, which restrict membership to either whites or Negroes.

## Teachers' Union Bars Jim Crow

THE decision of the convention of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL) in Grand Rapids, Mich., last week not to charter any new locals that practice racial discrimination is noteworthy and highly commendable.

The vote of 142 to 42 on the action represented a straight North-South cleavage and was bitterly condemned by Southern delegates whose locals were instructed the day previously to work toward the elimination of color bars.

It is indeed paradoxical that organized labor unions supposedly working for the advancement and protection of workers in their craft, industry or profession should limit their effectiveness by discriminating against other workers merely because of difference of color. 9-1-51

If so many other labor unions operating in Southern states have found it possible to accept Negro members and to function effectively nevertheless, there is no reason in the world why the Teachers Union locals in Dixie cannot do so unless they are bent on keeping their union weak.

As Eugene V. Debs remarked many years ago, "workers in a white skin cannot be free as long as workers in a black skin are in chains."



16m 1951

AFL Political League

# AFL to Raise \$8,000,000 Election Fund

Wed. 9.19.51

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 18 (AP). The AFL planned today to raise \$1 apiece from its eight million members to finance political activities in the 1952 elections.

The per capita tax will probably also be raised from 3 cents to 4 per member. This will add another million dollars to the AFL treasury, from which "political education" will be financed.

The \$1-per-member contribution will provide an eight-million-dollar fund to support national campaigns. State and local units will finance their own activities.

The AFL's Political League will be directed by James L. McDevitt, 52, former plasterer who has headed the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor since 1938.

McDevitt said the 107 AFL union presidents will meet in Washington in November to plan a program for 1952.



16m 1951

American Federation of Government Employees

## Green, Wilkinson Attend Meeting At Albany, Ga.

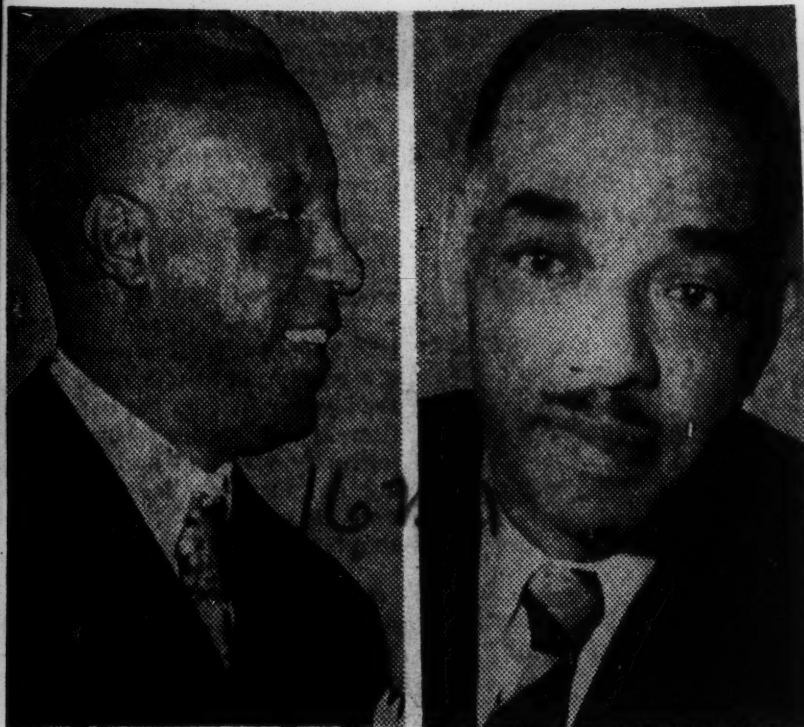
TUSKEGEE, Ala. --(SNS)-- Mrs. Bettie E. Green, president and A. A. Wilkinson, treasurer of the American Federation of Government Employees, represented their group at the fifth district meeting held Aug. 25 in the Federal Courtroom, Albany, Ga.

The two local delegates are scheduled to make their reports at a meeting set for Wednesday, Sept. 12.

Purpose of the district meetings is to provide for the stimulation and exchange of ideas and experiences figured to improve the working conditioned for federal employees.

Mrs. B. O. May, formerly of Birmingham, serves as reporter for the Tuskegee group.





**Delegates—** A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (AFL), and Boyd Wilson, right, international representative of the United Steelworkers of America (CIO), are among the twenty-four U. S. trade union officials who have been appointed delegates from the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Relations to attend the Second World Congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Milan, Italy, starting July 4.

**For Full Democracy**

## Randolph Warns 'Be Ready and Willing to Pay

**BIRMINGHAM—**A. Philip Randolph, national president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, warned Negro Americans that "We must pay the price" irregardless of what degree if we are to gain fully our "God-given rights" as human beings, and not as "Negro Americans."

Mr. Randolph made that challenging statement as he spoke to some 120 persons in attendance at the second annual banquet of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters held in the Masonic Temple auditorium, here Thursday night.

The banquet was sponsored by the Birmingham Division of the porter organization of which Wil-

liam Richardson Sr., is president.

### ACCORDED HONOR

The national president, who was honored guest at the banquet made eyes pop open with startling revelation when he informed his audience that "there is not a single Negro included in the National Emergency program

Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (AFL)

which was brought about due to the present world crisis."

"But, he added, the Brotherhood is still putting pressure on the big wigs in Washington, D. C. for the establishing of an Emergency FEPC ruling so qualified Negroes can have active participation and responsibility in the decision-making and policy-making offices.

"We don't want any more of that 'advisory' stuff," he said. He was citing cases in World War II where some Negroes were not only "advisory" positions and shouldered no responsibility in the decision or policy-making offices.

### Almost Barred

## Randolph Quizzed In Britain

**NEW YORK—**It was revealed here this week that A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Sleeping Car Porters' organization, was almost barred from entering England upon his recent trip to Europe to attend international labor conferences.

Randolph was subjected by British authorities to prolonged cross-examination on questions involving his connections with African and Communist movements and a searching inquiry on the purpose of his visit. Both papers he carried and letters he possessed were carefully scrutinized.

He finally was allowed entrance to the country, but was permitted to remain only seven days conferring with British labor leaders on matters that took him to England and the Continent.

## Porters, R.R.

## Sign First Agreement

Union Shop Is  
Now Authorized

**CHICAGO —** The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, the duly authorized representative of all porters, attendants, maids and bus boys, employed by The Pullman Company in the United States of America and Canada, this week signed the first national Union Shop Agreement as provided for under the amended Railway Labor Act.

The agreement, which affects over 11,000 men in approximately 100 American Railroad Centers, provides that as a condition of continued employment in the service of the company, these employees must become and remain members of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

The contract also provides that failure to comply with said contract will result in discharge from The Pullman Company.

The conference was held in the general offices of The Pullman Company in the Merchandise Mart in Chicago and the company was represented by F. J. Boeckelman, manager, Employee Relations; and H. R. Lang, Supervisor of Labor Relations.

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was represented by Milton P. Webster, First International Vice-President of Chicago; and T. D. McNeal, Fourth International Vice-President of St. Louis.

The Agreement is effective as of August 23, 1951.



# Randolph Raps Reds In Milan

## Speech For N. American Labor

MILAN, Italy (NNPA) - American Federation of Labor Delegate Philip Randolph told the second world congress of the International Federation of Free Trade Unions that all five major labor organizations of North America are behind the ICFTU drive to build up a strong and free trade unionism in underdeveloped areas while at the same time battling a Communist infiltration.

Mr. Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, said the trade union federations of the United States and Canada were prepared to give all aid including financial aid, to combat "the social misery and political confusion" in the world's backward regions.

He spoke for the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the United Mine Workers, the Canadian Congress of Labor and the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Mr. Randolph said.

The sleeping car porters' president added that the delegates from the United States and Canada were "disturbed" by rumors which expressed doubt as to their attitude on this question.

He emphasized that the North American organizations believed wholeheartedly in the building up of strong regional organizations in various parts of the world, which would carry out the policies of the free labor international.

### In Sixty-Six Countries

The ICFTU, which now comprises 55,000,000 free trade unionists in sixty-six countries, has recently set a goal of 250,000 pounds for a special fund to further the work already done in the underdeveloped areas. The British Trade Union Congress has pledged 60,000 pounds towards this fund.

The Swiss Confederation of Labor, the Canadian Congress of Labor and the Dutch Federation of Trade Unions have also pledged money for this work.

Mr. Randolph said American and Canadian organized labor wanted nothing from the world other than a strong and free trade union movement.

He called attention to the support of the Marshall Plan by organized labor in the United States, declaring that the money for it "came from the pockets of the workers."

"Solidarity is what we seek," he declared, calling for complete unity of action in the ICFTU.

Mr. Randolph warned that the backward regions of the world must be constantly on guard against Communist infiltration. He said the Bolshevik movement had changed the aim of revolution since that of France in 1789 which aimed at guaranteeing the rights of the individual. Russian totalitarianism, he asserted, put the state above the individual.

Communism, he told the 300 free trade union representatives in Milan's Bolazzo del Ghiaccio, seeks to undermine the labor movement for its own ends. He pointed to the activities of the Communists which have divided the labor movement in France and Italy.

"We must safeguard the democracy which neither the dictatorships of the right or the left can accept," he concluded, and "we must do it through unity, cooperation and understanding."





**WIFE OF "POISON LIQUOR" VICTIM** is shown receiving a check for \$500 from J. M. New, business representative for the Building Service Employees Union, Local 231, Atlanta, Ga. Mrs. Sucie Lawrence, wife of the late Milledge Lawrence, 28½ Fulton Street, S. E., is an employe at the Hurt Building here. The money, according to Mr. New is given out to union members in the form of an assistance for those who have been loyal. A large number of colored hold membership in the Builders Service Employees union here.



**Rights Commission  
Hits Jim Crow Union**

*See page 5*  
HARTFORD, Conn.—The Connecticut State Civil Rights Commission last week ordered the Electrical Union to accept Negroes as members.

The order came after a series of public hearings. The union was charged with discriminating against Negroes by Samuel T. Tilley and Warren B. Stewart. Union officials said they will appeal the ruling.





At present, Dorsey is working out of the local office of the CIO Organizing Committee, 400 Exchange Building. He is working very closely with Aaron E. Sloss, International Representative, United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers, with whom he has worked for several years in many sections of the South, and other local CIO lead-

**NOT FOOLED** by current price wars, Local 1-S of the CIO Department Store Workers, representing 8,300 Macy's Store workers in New York, sent a delegation to Washington June 5, to ask Congress for stronger price controls. Rep. Klein (D. N.Y.), seated, looks over the petitions with some of the delegates. Left to right are Elizabeth Hammond, Alfred Petitsjean, Diane Levy, Mary Askew and Ella Johnson.

### CIO Organizer Addresses Ministerial Alliance



William Dorsey, CIO Organizing Committee Representative, and Baptist layman, told ministers during a meeting of the Baptist Ministerial Alliance Monday, July 2, that there are three organizations which colored persons should wholeheartedly support, the church, the CIO, and the NAACP.

"The church always has played, and is still playing a leading role in the progress of colored Americans. There used to be a time when we had no other place to go for consolation or recreation, except the church," he said.

Referring to the NAACP, he said, "God is blessing our people through the NAACP. In behalf of citizens who live constantly under the evils and the injustices of discrimination, segregation, and Jim Crow, the NAACP is successfully leading a holy crusade to guarantee equal justice under the law."

Dorsey said that Southern Negro workers are indebted to the CIO by a very large degree, for the remarkable advancement they have made, in recent years, economically, politically, and otherwise.

Pointing out to his listeners that the CIO is determined to continue

its drive until all Southern workers are organized, the CIO Representative said that at times, abnormal fear, traditionally instilled in the minds of these workers makes progress difficult.

"I am sure you ministers understand that we, of the CIO, must follow through on this crusade, in cooperation with the church, the NAACP, and other progressive organizations, so that economic and political justice may prevail for all men everywhere, regardless of race, creed or color."

"These are the objectives of my Union. We have no selfish motives we seek no selfish ends. Evidence of this lies in the fact that wherever the CIO has been accepted and established, the entire community has benefitted; not just CIO members alone."

The labor leader told the ministers that CIO organizers are doing good deeds by bringing relief to suffering humanity and by trying to make tomorrow a little more secure for future generations.

"We will not fail our mission. We will not falter in our duty to mankind. We shall carry on until we go the way of the righteous," Mr. Dorsey concluded.



# Ohio Valley C.I.O. Men Adopt Plan To Combat Separate Negro Council

## Unionists Charge It's Red Project

Cincinnati, Oct. 11 (AP)—Key C.I.O. leaders from the Ohio Valley region adopted an eight-point educational program today to combat an alleged Communist attempt to set up a separate labor organization for Negroes.

The C.I.O. men said they would explain to their 70,000 members that the proposed National Negro Labor Council is "another Communist attempt to exploit a minority group for their own purposes."

Robert J. Davidson, C.I.O. regional leader in the Southern Ohio-Northern Kentucky area, called the meeting to plan action against a founding convention of the council, scheduled here October 27 and 28. The convention site is the former headquarters of the Hamilton County Communist Party.

### Thousands Get Invitations

Thousands of invitations have been sent to Negro workers throughout the nation to take part in the convention. They were mailed from Detroit.

After today's meeting, Davidson predicted C.I.O. members would have nothing to do with the proposed organization.

Davidson said that unless organizations like the C.I.O. take positive action to discredit the council with factual information, it could easily become a sabotage group in vital defense plants.

While the C.I.O. leaders were meeting here, the Ohio C.I.O. Council in Columbus told locals and councils throughout the state "not to be misled or beguiled by the glib slogans or slick promises" of the National Negro Labor Council.

### Kroll Assails Promoters

C.I.O. Council President Jack Kroll of Cincinnati said the real promoters of the council are men who were "expelled from the C.I.O. for attempting to subvert the legitimate aims and aspirations of the labor movement."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People issued a statement in New York last night saying it would not support any attempt to set up a separate labor organization for

Negroes.

The union leaders who met here today announced this program to discredit the council:

1. Explanation of the importance and significance of the National Negro Labor Council.
2. Detailing of the Communist backing of the council.
3. A campaign to contact locals and explain to workers the dangers of the organization.
4. Encouragement of C.I.O. councils and affiliated local unions to take appropriate action condemning the group.
5. Encouragement of C.I.O. members to spread information about the "Communist organization" in their community.
6. Alerting union members to be on guard for possible acts of sabotage fostered "by those left-wingers."
7. Initiation of a program of education with the workers within local unions and plants.
8. Setting up of a clearing house for C.I.O. to publicize the organization's activities "so that our citizens can be alerted to the acts of communism."

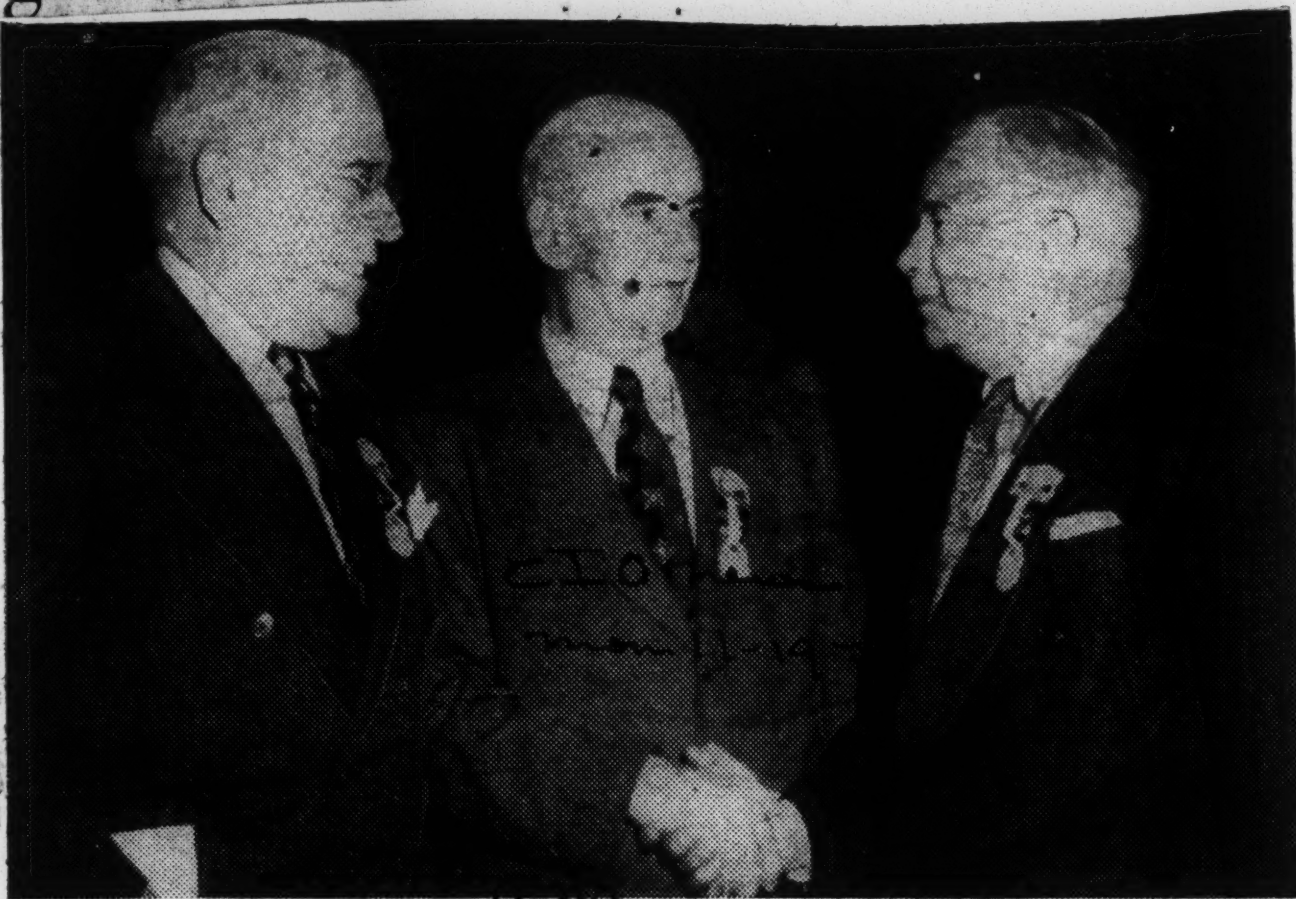
## CIO Warns On New York Compensation

NEW YORK CIO last week gave the State Legislature its choice: Either strengthen workmen's compensation laws, or labor will drive to improve compensation protection through direct collective bargaining.

That alternative was presented by Louis Hollander, president of the New York State CIO Council. The Council represents more than a million CIO union members in the state.

Hollander testified before a New York City hearing of the Joint Legislative Committee on Labor and Industry.

"The largest employers of the State," he predicted, "have given unmistakable evidence that workmen's compensation will be their



GREETINGS are extended by CIO Pres. Philip Murray (center) to two convention visitors. Murray clasps the hand of Walter White, secretary of the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People. At the left is Mayor David Lawrence of Pittsburgh, Murray's home city. Several other distinguished guests also were introduced.

target in next year's legislative session as unemployment insurance was their target in this year's."

Hollander warned that if the Legislature "follows the pattern it established last year and again bows to the will of these employer groups, then organized labor will

have no choice but to seek adequate protection for its members through collective bargaining."

Among strengthening amendments proposed by the State CIO chief were: elimination of statutory dollar maximum benefit (now \$32 weekly) and limiting weekly benefits on a percentage basis only to 66% of wages; eliminating participation of private insurance carriers in workmen's compensation program; increasing benefits to workers who received awards under now obsolete benefit schedules with increase being paid out of public funds.

Hollander declared that adequate workmen's compensation

protection is the right of every worker and should be guaranteed for all by law. "But," he said, "if the Legislature cannot be persuaded to live up to its responsibilities, then organized labor must take steps to make employers live up to theirs on an individual basis."

In this connection, Hollander recalled the successful drives for pension provisions in their contracts conducted by steel, auto and other CIO unions which he asserted were instrumental in bringing about "necessary and long-overdue" improvements in the Social Security laws.



## Philip Murray And Dublin, Ga.

Philip Murray, president of the CIO, has sent a message to U. S. Atty. Gen. Howard McGrath urging him to investigate "antiunion police terror" in Dublin, Ga.

The request is based directly on arrest of Charles H. Gillman and two assistants who were holding an organization meeting of workers from a Dublin plant, and which included both white and colored employees. The sheriff reportedly said he thought it was a Communist meeting. The three organizers were freed next day by habeas corpus proceedings.

Now, of course, Charles Gillman is not a Communist, and never has been. He is a fine type citizen. The sheriff's alarm highlights one of the problems of the present. FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover warns against Communist sabotage. The Sen. McCarthy type of hysterical attacks creates hysteria. Law officers will have to use judgment and to know that both the AFL and CIO seek Negro members. Whatever one may think of these two organizations, and they are not beloved by all, they are not Communist organizations. The CIO had a few Commies brought in when John L. Lewis created it, and that organization has had the devil's own time getting them out.

But violence is not good for Georgia, no matter where it may occur. We don't go along with Mr. Murray's charges. We don't think there is any "terror" in Georgia and such charges destroy themselves by their own irresponsibility.

## Democracy At Work

# East Side CIO Local Has Negro President

Evidence that the United Steelworkers Union, CIO, actually practices real democracy within its membership may be found in the case of Eugene George Fulton of 1437 Lawrence Avenue, East St. Louis, Ill.

Fulton is chairman (or president) of Local 1038 of the union at the East St. Louis Works, American Steel Foundry. The significant point of his chairmanship, however, is that the local's 1000 membership is composed of about 500 Negroes and 500 white persons.

Fulton has been chairman since 1945 and his return to that office by the regular election of the membership attests his ability to serve the local on a broad and general scale.

The chairman has come up through the ranks of the local, serving as shop steward, committeeman and then to the chairmanship. He joined the local at its inception in 1936.

Fulton has certain principles by which he administers his office. "The first basic principle of Negro Americans in organized labor is first a sincere determination not to submit to segregation, discrimination or the exploitation of race and to adjudicate grievances under the provision of the International Constitution and the constitution and by-laws of the local union. He must be militant, and courageous in his advocations, because discrimination and segregation are not only detrimental to the Negro race as a whole, but also a detriment to the American true system of justice," he said.

The entire union has advanced under Fulton, particularly the colored membership. Before he took office, there were no Negro crane men at the Foundry—now there are 20; likewise, were there no finishers or inspectors. Now there are seven finishers and three inspectors. There is also a Negro time study engineer in the personnel office, all gains made under union un-

derstanding and cooperation with management.

It is interesting to note that Fulton is chairman of an all-white executive committee. Prior to the recent election of officers, the board was about 50-50 racially, but now the chairman remains as the lone colored member. There are no differences and members serve as members, no more, no less.

Luther Hibbert is V. president;



EUGENE FULTON

M. K. Harry, financial secretary; William Warwick, recording secretary; M. B. Lacy, treasurer and Russell L. Norwood, chairman of the adjustment committee.

## Reuther gets his fourth term as UAW leader

BY GLENN ENGLE

CLEVELAND, April 4 — (AP) — Walter Reuther gets his fourth term today as president of the CIO United Auto Workers.

And the UAW convention also was ready to re-elect the other three top officers with him.

Though only token opposition was put up against the four, an hours-long roll-call vote was required.

ON THE SAME SLATE with Reuther were Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey and Vice Presidents Richard T. Gosser and John W. Livingston.

Election of 19 regional directors was scheduled for later in the day. There was no other business on the day's program.

The anti-Reuther faction has been able to muster only about 10 per cent of the votes on most convention issues so far, it was doubtful

that it could do any better on the elections.

REUTHER'S OPPONENT was James Cleveland, secretary of Chevrolet-Ford Local 262 in Detroit.

Other candidates on the slate of the anti-Reuther faction which calls itself "the committee for a progressive and militant UAW," included:

Secretary-treasurer, Tony Czerwinski, former president of Briggs Local 212, Detroit; vice president, Kenneth Forbes, president of Local 455, Saginaw, Mich., and Rudy Pale, president of Chevrolet Gear and Axle Local 235, Detroit.

Reuther's power has grown steadily since he first was elected head of the 1,250,000-member union in Atlantic City in 1946. In that year three anti-Reuther leaders were given the other top offices, making most union affairs a factional stand-off.





**CIO VICE PRES. ALLAN S. HAYWOOD** (left) and Pres. Edward A. Gaskin of Local 900 of the CIO Government & Civic Employees Organizing Committee in the Panama Canal Zone naturally keep posted by reading the CIO News. Gaskin is here on a U. S. leadership grant to study labor conditions.

## Leader Of CIO Local On Scene:

# Canal Zone Should Be Made 'Showcase' For Democracy

**T**HE UNITED STATES had better start practicing some of the democracy it preaches about if it expects the support of Latin America when the chips are down, according to Pres. Edward A. Gaskin of Local 900 of the CIO Government & Civic Employees Organizing Committee, in the Panama Canal Zone.

white colleague are paid.

He is in the United States on a government fellowship. As an exchange student, he is studying labor conditions under the auspices of the State Dept., which hopes he and others like him will return to their homes with a strengthened belief in democracy and an even greater distaste for communism.

Gaskin feels the United States is making a major mistake in not using the Canal Zone as a showcase of democracy for the benefit of Latin America.

"The State and Defense Depts.," he said on a visit to CIO headquarters in Washington, "seem centered on Europe and Asia in trying to keep the war out of the western hemisphere."

"They are laboring under an illusion because Latin American

leaders tell them the people of their countries are strong in their support of democracy, that they're solidly behind the democratic way of life.

"It seems to a lot of us in the Canal Zone that the Zone, like Puerto Rico, where there are lots of Americans, mirrors to the other republics what the United States really practices and not the ideals it purports to be seeking to spread.

"A lot of workers go to the Zone from other Latin American countries. They are discriminated against, segregated, and undergo other humiliations. They return to their homes embittered and disillusioned about democracy.

"If it comes to a crisis and democracy has to be defended in the western hemisphere, the burden will fall on the masses, not on individual leaders. The Communists fight and connive and cheat and lie for their way of life.

**"WE HAVE** to meet their fanaticism not with more fanaticism, but by making a conscious effort to develop in the people of Latin America an abiding faith in democracy in their hearts and minds, so that they will be willing to sacrifice even their lives for it, if necessary."

Native rate workers on the the Panama Canal and Panama Railroad are paid as low as 32c an hour. Workers from the United States received the prevailing rates at home plus a bonus for foreign service.

The native workers are promised equal treatment under a 1936 treaty with Panama, but according to Gaskin, there has been no conscious attempt to live up to it on this country's part.

Gaskin is principal of a school at La Boca, at the Pacific end of the Canal, near Panama City. He first helped organize a teachers' union about 10 years ago, turned it over to the United Office & Professional Workers in 1946, then bolted that body with his group in 1948 over the Communist issue.

When the CIO expelled the UOPWA because of its Communist domination he became active again, and was the first president of the new Local 900

At Three-Day Convention

# Ala. CIO Council Names 2 Negro Vice Presidents

## Murray to Quit as President Of CIO Within Sixty Days

By VICTOR RIESEL

**NEW YORK, Sept. 5.** — Philip Murray has quietly announced to his closest lieutenants that he is stepping down as president of the CIO within 60 days — before the CIO convention opens in New York on Nov. 5. The only thing likely to keep Murray from following through with his decision would be a move, by John L. Lewis, mine union chief, to seek to regain control of the CIO, or to join forces with the AFL in an effort to crush the CIO. That's one fight he wouldn't miss.

Murray indicated that his decision to quit leadership of the five-million-member organization, which he took over in 1940, was prompted by the state of his health.

Murray also told his aides that he wanted to concentrate on affairs of his powerful steel union, in its coming showdown fight with heavy industry.

Walter Reuther, fiery head of the United Auto Workers, will be the leading candidate for the CIO presidency if Murray remains firm in his decision.

Influential vice presidents of the CIO tried to persuade Murray at the closed-door meeting to change his mind, but he remained adamant.

**BIRMINGHAM**—Robert Washington and the Rev. James F. Davis were elected vice presidents-at-large, and Mrs. Fanny Allen Key of Montgomery, representative of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, was re-elected Saturday at the closing session of the three-day convention of the Alabama CIO Council.

Unopposed, Eugene B. Wells, first elected in 1945 after seven years in the steel mills, was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Bes Clinton Lewis, powerful, former CIO leader, made a fervent appeal to the delegates to place at least two Negro members on the executive committee. Noel Beddow, former state CIO president, nominated Washington. Mrs. Ida Mae Caldwell of Montgomery placed the name of Neal in nomination, who was unopposed.

Some three hundred and sixty delegates and thirty-eight visitors registered for the convention at which about one hundred and fifty Negroes were delegates.

John Schuler sponsored a resolution against racial and religious bias.



# Fla. Labor Federation Marks 50th Year



The Florida Federation of Labor held its Golden Anniversary meeting in Miami, last week with delegates of all races from all sections of the state. Above some of them are shown in the lounge of the Mary Elizabeth Hotel where a banquet was given in their honor: Top row, left to right, M. Gregory, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Tampa; Harold J. Jones, business agent of the Motion Picture Union, Miami; James Wheeler Jr., International

al Longshoreman's Association, Tampa; James E. Love, vice-president of the International Chemical Workers' Union, Brewster, and Charles Hall, recording secretary of International Longshoreman's Association, local 1416, Miami. Bottom Row, Perry C. Harvey, of the Fla. Federation of Labor, and president of International Longshoreman's Association, Local 1402, Tampa, who was elected vice-president of the entire Florida Federation of Labor; Charles A.

Lockhart, International vice-president of the International Longshoreman's Association and general organizer, financial secretary and business agent of Local 1416, Miami; Sampson Lip-trot, president of Motion Picture Machine Operators Local 316, Miami, Fla.; Roy Ellison, chairman of the trustee committee of Local 34 of International Chemical Workers, Brewster, and Al Lockhart, manager of the Mary Elizabeth Hotel, formerly of Washington, and New York



# UNIONS TO FIGHT DICTATORSHIPS OF RIGHT OR LEFT

Workers of 53 Countries

Indorse U.S. Plan

MILAN, Italy, July 7 [Reuters] —Leaders of 52,500,000 organized workers thruout the world today indorsed a plan of action put forward by American labor to combat dictatorship anywhere.

Three hundred labor leaders from 53 countries, meeting here in the second world congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade unions, heard a 10 point program put forward by the AFL, CIO, and the United Mine-workers of America.

It was outlined by Matthew Woll, leader of the AFL delegation.

## Will Not Compromise

"Free trade unionists abhor dictatorship of whatever description—communist, fascist, junta government or corporate states," Woll told the meeting.

"We will not compromise with totalitarianism," he said. "Today one out of every three human beings is in subjection to some form of totalitarian dictatorship. Democracy, without which there can be no free trade unionism, is now facing its most serious challenge."

This is the program Woll laid down to beat to beat that challenge. It was written by George Meany, AFL secretary-treasurer.

1. No partnership between anti-communist and communist unions.

## Must Lead Struggle

2. The free trade unions must lead the struggle against "every expression of hostility" to free labor.

3. They must reject, resist and defeat "all totalitarian infiltration, machination, and subversion."

4. The free trade unions must spearhead the energetic exposure of "totalitarianism of all shades and stripes."

5. The "spreading menace" of slave labor must be fought mercilessly.

6. Labor must lead "an effective program for eliminating the social and economic conditions in which the germs of totalitarianism breed."

## Must Set the Pace

7. Toward this end, each national labor movement must set the pace for "defending, strengthening and expanding democratic rights and liberties" in its own country.

8. Any "genuine democratic forces" should be enrolled in this struggle.

9. Labor must be unsparing in its efforts to help the defense of its own country.

10. The campaign against totalitarianism must be always international in inspiration and character.

Supporting the program, Jacob S. Potofsky of the CIO called on so-called free countries to give Gen. Franco, Spanish chief of state, the "final shove into oblivion," by denying him aid and recognition.

General



Beach walks November 1951  
STATE AND INTERNATIONAL UNION EDUCATION DIRECTORS.—Washington.—Miss Elizabeth Irwin, director of research Connecticut State Federation of Labor, and Theodore Brown, director of education and research AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, makes notes on workers' education program outlined by John Connors, director AFL Workers Education Bureau at annual meeting of education directors.



# Senate Group Report Called Slur On South

## Findings On Southern Textile Industry Hit By Minority Members

WASHINGTON, March 20 —

(AP)— An "amazing and unjustified slur" on the South that's the way two Republican senators Tuesday described a Senate labor subcommittee's majority report on the Southern textile industry.

Senators Taft (R-Ohio) and Nixon (R-Calif) called the document one-sided and "neither objective nor in any sense factual."

The majority report came out early this month. It charged that Southern employers, businessmen and churches had conspired to destroy or block unionization of Southern textile mills.

It also said manufacturers were quitting New England for the South mainly because of lower wage scales and the absence of organized labor in the mill areas.

In their minority report Taft and Nixon said publication of the majority document constitutes "an amazing and unjustified slur upon a great section of our country," and added:

"The fact is that employers in the Southern textile industry do not differ greatly from employers in other parts of the country and Southern employers in other industries."

### Committee Action Pending

The full Senate Labor Committee has not acted yet on either the majority or the minority reports. The subcommittee's investigation of labor-management conditions in the Southern textile industry was conducted last year.

Nixon is a member of the full committee but not the subcommittee. He was not a member of the Senate last year.

Taft and Nixon said the majority seemed to have assumed "that government policy is to unionize every plant regardless of the expressed wishes of the workers and to force workers

to become members of the CIO whether they wish to or not."

They declared "it is certainly understandable that in some communities public sentiment is very much opposed to unions, and there seems no reason why such public sentiment should be restrained from affecting the employees who are citizens of that community and likely to share in its general public sentiment."

The two senators said the subcommittee's inquiry appeared to have been inspired by the CIO Textile Workers Union "because of its failure in its attempt to organize the majority of the employees in the Southern textile industry."

### Called One-Sided

The majority report, Taft and Nixon declared, "could not be more one-sided if it had been written by the attorneys for the union."

As for the North-South wage differential, the minority document said:

"During World War II, the National War Labor Board held that wage differentials as between different parts of the country were sound and proper on the basis of social, economic and geographic factors."

Taft and Nixon asked:

"Is there, after all, any reason for forcing a cost on Southern employers higher than is necessary to give the same standard of living in the South as prevails in the North?"

They said "we cannot assume out of hand, as the majority report seems to do, that wage differentials between North and South in the textile industry are necessarily evil, nor can we ignore the interest of our people as a whole in the matter."

The majority's findings were based on case studies covering an American Enka Corporation Plant at Morristown, Tenn.; the American Thread Company, Tallapoosa, Ga.; Anchor Rome Mills, Inc., Rome, Ga.; the Celanese Corporation Plant at Rome, Ga. and activities of a citizens committee at Anderson, S. C.

The Taft-Nixon report said the majority had presented "a distorted picture" of labor-management relations in the South, particularly in the textile industry.



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## International Labor Organization



**In Switzerland—** Government workers and labor delegates from five continents are attending the general conference of the International Labor Organization at Geneva. Boyd Wilson (left), United Steelworkers of America (CIO) and workers' adviser to the conference, listens to the views of Louis J. Ducoff, labor economist at the Department of Agriculture and Government adviser, during a plenary session.



16m 1951

Labor Youth League

# Circulate Petition To Seek Dismissal Of Indictment Against Youth Leader

*Comm. to Def. Roosevelt Ward, Jr. 8-25-51*

New York, N. Y.—A nationwide petition campaign urging U. S. Attorney General J. Howard McGrath to order the immediate dismissal of the false indictment against Roosevelt Ward, Jr., prominent Negro youth leader, has just been announced.

Ward's trial has been set for Monday, September 24, in New Orleans.

More than 50,000 Negro and white youth are expected to take part in the drive, which is the latest in a series of actions throughout the country protesting the frame-up of the New York State Administrative Secretary of the Labor Youth League.

Ward is charged with "draft evasion." He has denied ever having received any notice to report for induction. Stressing that he is opposed in principle to such an individualistic action, Ward has offered full proof of innocence. Moreover, he has informed authorities both in New York, where he resides, and in New Orleans that he is available for induction whenever called.

The petition, sponsored by the Committee to Defend Roosevelt Ward, Jr., 23 West 26th Street and 53 West 125th Street, New York City, points out that the indictment "seriously threatens the rights of all young people to express their views without fear."

Petition signers will inform McGrath that "we, who have many different views and opinions, nonetheless are agreed that the prosecution of Ward, Jr., who actively promotes the rights of Negro youth and the cause of peace, violates all our concepts of liberty."

Committee co-chairmen, Louis Burnham, editor of "Freedom," and Rubin Weinstein, president of the East Side Federation of Social Clubs, declared: "Everywhere young people, Negro and white, have been prompt to recognize that this frame-up is aimed at all of them and have taken heartening actions to bring about an end to it."



George H. Fowler is perhaps the only "negro mediator of labor disputes employed by a government agency. The Texas-born ex-GI works for the New York State Board of Mediation in settling differences between unions and employers, has been on the civil service job since last July. New York University graduate has also served as an election examiner for the National Labor Relations Board. Fowler was formerly a display window arranger for a big New York Store.

EBONY Vol. 6:No.6  
April, 1951 p.4



## Stresses Need For Negroes To Join Unions

*at 1-20-51*  
NEW ORLEANS (NC)—"The glaring evidence of the difference in living conditions for Negroes organized into labor unions and those unorganized is sufficient proof of the need of more Negroes in the present unions and for organization of Negro workers generally," the Rev. Vincent J. O'Connell, S.M., past president of the Catholic Committee of the South, declared here.

Father O'Connell took part in a panel discussion of an Urban League survey made in New Orleans. The meeting was held at Temple Sinai by the New Orleans section of the National Council of Jewish Women. Father O'Connell declared: "Anyone reading the facts regarding employment, housing, health facilities, and recreation cannot help conclude that the policy of 'separate but equal' is a myth. If you really want to know the cause of juvenile delinquency among Negro youth you must look into the employment policies, low wage scales, and poor educational and recreational facilities that New Orleans Negroes are subject to."



## Seeks Industrial and Social Equality for Negroes

# New Labor Council Formed Despite Subversive Charge

CINCINNATI—(ANP)—The National Negro Labor Council was formed here last week despite charges that it was subversive. Some 100 delegates who attended the organization meeting, which was well policed, heard speakers say that the purpose of the council was to gain industrial and social equality for Negroes.

The keynote speaker was William R. Hood of Detroit, acting president. Paul Robeson also was on the program.

In delivering the principal address, Hood said:

"Negro America is mad, hurt and humiliated. We, your black sons and daughters, pledge to you that we have a pool of mighty strength to put at your service to the end that you will have economic, political and social equality, so that you might enjoy the great and good things of our land."

### A CHALLENGE

"The world must understand that we intend to build a stronger bond of unity between black and white workers everywhere to strengthen American democracy for all. If this the subversion—make the most of it."

Both the CIO and AFL unions had urged their members to stay away from the meeting because

it was supposed to be Communist inspired.

When asked by a reporter whether or not the new organization would accept Communist support, Hood replied: "We will accept support from anyone who will support our group in good faith."

## Subversive Charge Denied By Negro Unit

CINCINNATI, Oct. 27 (AP)—The National Negro Labor Council denied, through its speakers today, that it is subversive or has an ulterior motive.

Formed here today at a meeting place well policed, the approximately 400 delegates were told the Council's purpose is to

gain industrial and social equality with any other race in the United States.

William R. Hood, Detroit, the acting president, sounded the keynote when he said:

"Negro America is mad, hurt and humiliated. We, your black sons and daughters, pledge to you that we have a pool of mighty strength to put at your service, to the end that you will have economic, political and social equality, so that you might enjoy the great and good things of our land."

Hood declared "the world must understand that we intend to build a stronger bond of unity between black and white workers everywhere to strengthen American democracy for all. If this be subversion—make the most of it."

The false cry of "subversive," Hood charged, is calculated to maintain and extend a condition of common oppression.

## NEGRO LABOR BODY IS FORMED IN OHIO

Acting Head of Council Says Those Who Call It Subversive Are 'Oppressors of People'

Special to The New York Times

CINCINNATI, Oct. 27 — In a hall guarded by uniformed and plainclothes policeman and with several Federal Bureau of Investigation agents as observers, William R. Hood, of Detroit, urged American Negroes today to join with American white workers in a struggle "against reaction and bigotry."

He gave the keynote address,

entitled "For These Things We Fight," at the opening of a two-day session of a convention that is organizing the National Negro Labor Council, of which he is the acting president.

Both the Congress of Industrial Organizations and American Federation of Labor here have publicly requested their respective members to shun the convention.

On a motion introduced by City Councilman Jesse D. Locker, a Negro, and supported by the only other Cincinnati Negro councilman, Theodore M. Berry, the City Council unanimously denounced the call for the convention two weeks ago.

Mr. Hood in his address said: "We say that those whites who call the National Labor Council 'subversive' have an ulterior motive. We know them for what they are—the common oppressors of both peoples, Negro and white. We charge that their false pride of 'subversive' is calculated to maintain and extend that condition of common oppression."

### Says Liberties Are Vanishing

"You who call this council 'subversive' cannot understand the burning anger of the Negro people, our desire to share the good things our labor has produced for America. To Scheyler of The Pittsburgh Courier [Negro publication], to Lester Granger of the Urban League, to Councilman Locker, all of whom attacked our council at the beck and call of the big white folks, we warn you: Negro America is mad, hurt and humiliated."

"We come here today because we are conscious of a confronting world crisis. We are here because many of our liberties are disappearing in the face of powerful war economy."

"We the Negro working sons and daughters have come here to Cincinnati to keep faith with our forefathers and mothers who landed right here from the banks of the Ohio River in their dash for freedom from chattel slavery through the underground railroad."

"The Negro Labor Council is our symbol. It is the expression of our

desire to bring to bear our full Communist support and he answered: "We will accept support from anyone who will support our group in good faith."

### Discusses Union Opposition

"During the course of our council building, there has been opposition from some of the trade union leaders, particularly to this convention. They have accused us of attempting dual unionism, and some of them have gone so far as to advise Negro workers not to participate."

"The day has ended when white trade union leaders or white leaders in any organization may presume to tell Negroes on what basis they shall come together to fight for their rights. Three hundred years has been enough of that. We ask for your cooperation—but we do not ask your permission."

Mr. Hood, who is secretary of a C. I. O. United Automobile Workers local in Detroit said that some 900 delegates, Negro and white, meeting in Chicago in June, 1950, issued a mandate for organization of the council.

"Now," he continued, "we sound a warning note to American reaction and bigotry. That warning says that a combination of 15,000,000 American Negroes and 15,000,000 American white workers will end Jim Crowism, anti-Semitism, and persecution of the foreign born."

"If this same combination speaks with one united voice for peace, America will make peace."

He urged that the convention "project a central national campaign for an executive order from the President of the United States to establish a Federal fair employment practices order and a Federal Fair Employment Practices Committee to enforce it."

This campaign, he said, should serve notice on the President "that he is expected to act—and not just double-talk for the executive order."

The council will act on resolutions and elect officers tomorrow.

### Robeson Attends Meeting

CINCINNATI, Oct. 27 (AP)—Paul Robeson, singer, was the star of a social session of the National Negro Labor Council tonight.

Mr. Hood declined to comment at any length about advance promotion given to the convention by the Communist Daily Worker but he declared that he was not a Communist.

A reporter asked him whether the new organization would refuse



# NEGRO LABOR BODY CALLED A FAILURE

*James H. M.*  
Sympathizers So Few There,  
It Is Unable to Form Branch,  
Says Urban League Leader

*Mon. 11-2-51*  
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 11—The self-styled National Negro Labor Council, which was organized here on Oct. 28, has so few sympathizers here that it has been unable to form a local branch, a Negro leader said today.

Joseph A. Hall, the executive director of the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati, a Negro unit of the Community Chest, added that the organization's influence appeared to have departed along with the convention.

Other sources said that most Cincinnati Negroes followed the advice of the City Council, and leaders of the C. I. O. and A. F. L., to shun the convention as a meeting appealing to leftist sentiment.

The fact that The Daily Worker, Communist newspaper, published in New York, had commented favorably on the convention and its aims in advance of the meeting and that Paul Robeson, singer, was on the convention program also caused many Negroes here to avoid the organization, the same sources declared.

The publicity given to the convention by The Daily Worker attracted the interest of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Cincinnati Police Department, with the result that both the F. B. I. and the police were heavily and regularly represented at the convention sessions.

The City Council unanimously adopted a resolution urging Cincinnati citizens to shun the convention. The resolution was introduced by Jesse D. Locker, Negro, and was supported by his only Negro fellow councilman, Theodore M. Berry.

John J. Hurst, president of the Cincinnati Central Labor Council, A. F. L., said today that all indications were that the National Negro Labor Council made very little impression on Cincinnati.

"It was our understanding that the National Negro Labor Council sought to organize Negro labor unions," he said. "That means segregation. On the other hand, our aim is harmony through organization among all groups. The Negro Labor Council's concept is racial and hence not American."

"In my opinion the National Negro Labor Council is neither a 'Negro' nor a 'labor' council."

The Cincinnati Enquirer, in an editorial yesterday commented:

"The New York Daily Worker, bible of the Communist party in the United States, did most of the editorial promotion of the much-ballyhooed organization meeting of the 'National Negro Labor Council' in Cincinnati last week, while the responsible Negro press—as in the case of The Pittsburgh Courier—stood back and regarded the affair with commendable suspicion."

"The Daily Worker's 'news' and editorial items following the affair have been quite amusing. One Daily Worker dispatch from Cincinnati said that the 'threatened terror against the meeting was broken by the overwhelming support given it by Negro workers throughout the country'."

## Discrimination Talk Scheduled

Commissioner Nicholas H. Pinto of the State Commission Against Discrimination is scheduled to speak at the monthly meeting of the Junior League of the Italian Board of Guardians tomorrow night at 191 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn. He will discuss operations of the state law against discrimination. Miss Geraldine D. Santangelo is president of the league.



## They Are Both Wrong

Placarding a destitute Negro woman with a sign saying "Just Married. Ha! Ha!" and requiring this poverty stricken individual to walk beside a white union labor picket of the opposite sex in order to earn her pay, is not in our judgment the honest way to settle labor disputes in Oklahoma City. This idea smacks too much of the period immediately following World War I, when Negroes were used as strike-breakers all over the nation whenever the white worker struck because of low pay or other intolerable working conditions.

There could of course be no value in placing such a placard on the back of a Negro woman other than to feed the fires of racial hatred, based in the idea that it is humiliating to infer that a white man is married to a Negro woman. Such an argument has no place in collective bargaining and its originators appear to us like the crazy man we learned of once, who when someone started talking about "today," immediately started talking about "tomorrow." Give this subject careful study. What sort of substantial argument is being made about living wage scales when we refuse to talk about the subject advanced for discussion and fake a picture of a white man married to a Negro.

This matter came directly to the attention of this writer early last week when members of the aggrieved labor union, along with the white picket, showed up at the Black Dispatch and requested publicity regarding the very reprehensible action of those who took advantage of poverty and destitution to force a black woman into the questionable position referred to above.

When the committee arrived we told them we were deeply interested in labor unions and the right of the Negro worker to join with the white union worker in collective bargaining, but we asked a pertinent question when the members of the carpenters' union had fully presented their case. The question we wanted answered was, "Are Negroes members of the union to which you men belong?"

"No-o-o, there are none in our union for the simple reason no Negro carpenter has asked to join," said the spokesman for the group.

"Well," we suggested, "since it is so disgraceful for it to be intimated a white man is married to a Negro, don't you feel it would have been excellent if you had had some black men in your union when you discovered the prejudiced technique of the non-union crowd, so that instantaneously, you could have placed a Negro on as picket and then the issue raised by the non-union crowd would have been stalemated." Two of the union men were quick to say we were right, while the spokesman continued to talk about inability of the union to secure Negro carpenters as members.

We went on to point out to the union representatives that not only could the Negro worker save the day on a picket line, but he would be useful in almost every field in the fight to secure a living wage. "You ought to realize by this time that no white worker is secure here in America so long as a destitute black man stands on the outside of this nation's industrial establishment," we told the delegation, and we believe we sent the members of the white carpenters' union away thinking more seriously about integration than ever before.

We want to repeat, we are deeply interested in a program of integration between the white and black worker, but in this situation we find not only the non-union world out of line with genuine democracy, but members of the union who deny the black man a place by their side, are equally wrong. The challenge comes to point out the faults of both. Surely the white worker should see that so long as he constitutionally or by some form of usage bars the Negro worker from membership, management is going to use that unorganized worker with which to destroy the union. This angle of the labor issue should be crystal clear to all.



16m 1951

## SUIT BY U.M.W. ASKS \$2,000,000 DAMAGES

Lewis' Union Says Operators,  
Officials in Harlan Region  
Flouted Its Civil Rights

Wed. 9-12-51  
By JOSEPH A. LOFTUS

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11—The United Mine Workers of America, in the name of organizers and members, filed suit in the Federal Court at Lexington, Ky., today against coal companies, judges, sheriffs and other law officers to recover \$2,000,000 in damages for what were described as violations of civil liberties.

The suit is an outgrowth of an intensive campaign ordered by John L. Lewis, the union's president, to organize about 3,000 mine workers in Clay and Leslie Counties, next door to "bloody Harlan." The nonunion miners, by working for less than the union scale and thus securing a competitive advantage to their employers, endanger Mr. Lewis' wage agreement with the rest of the soft coal industry.

The organizing campaign has bred violence reminiscent of the Harlan County eruptions of twenty years ago. The Harlan miners now are organized. Automobiles of the organizers have been sacked and blown up, miners who joined the union have been discharged and assaulted, and homes have been machine-gunned.

All this was charged in the suit filed today. These and other actions were laid to 612 defendants, among whom are coal operators, sheriffs of the two counties, two county judges, deputy sheriffs, deputy coroners, magistrates and constables. The suit also set forth that the law officers were in the pay of unorganized coal companies and that they falsely imprisoned union sympathizers and conspired to deprive them of civil rights.

The suit seeks \$1,000,000 in actual damages, and \$1,000,000 in punitive damages for interference with the right to organize and assemble peacefully. The petitioners also asked for an injunction against the defendants to prevent recurrences of the alleged infringement of liberties.

### A Tussle Over Taft Law

Mr. Lewis' recourse to the courts under a civil liberties statute again points up his opinion of the Taft-Hartley Law. If he submitted the required non-Communist affidavits and union financial data,

he could file unfair labor practice charges against the coal companies and petition the National Labor Relations Board for collective bargaining elections.

But Mr. Lewis has barred himself from those channels, although that does not bar actions against him and the United Mine Workers under the Taft-Hartley Law.

The Clay and Leslie County enterprises that the union is trying to organize were started since the war. Operators who are under contract to the union say they are being undersold by at least \$1 a ton.

The nonunion mines are doing such a heavy business that, while their employes are reported to be working for less than the union scale, they are making much more money than the union miners because they get work five to six days a week, while in the near-by Hazard (Ky.) field, the miners have averaged only two to three days' work a week.

The operators paying the union scale have a business interest in the success of Mr. Lewis' campaign. He knows that so long as the operators with whom he negotiates are at a competitive disadvantage he is handicapped in wage bargaining and even runs the risk of having existing contracts repudiated.

The U. M. W. chief sent a group of organizers into the area last spring under the direction of Tom Raney, international executive board member from District 30, which takes in the Eastern Kentucky area. They operate from a base at Hazard, in Perry County, which is "safe" union territory adjoining Leslie.

### Ill-Feeling Noted

The organizers make sorties into Leslie and Clay Counties but report that it is hazardous. A mass meeting called by the union last July 28 at Hyden, in Leslie, was a tense affair. The organizers were greeted by a large sign on the courthouse lawn saying, "Tom Raney and His Gang Not Welcome."

The meeting, however, came off without any violence, but dynamitings and personal assaults preceded and followed it.

The suit today was filed in the name of Allen Condra, a representative of the U. M. W. and others, against the Leslie and Clay Coal Company and others.

In the union's battle to organize Harlan County, the Federal government in 1938 entered charges of conspiracy to violate the Wagner Act fifty-three Harlan coal

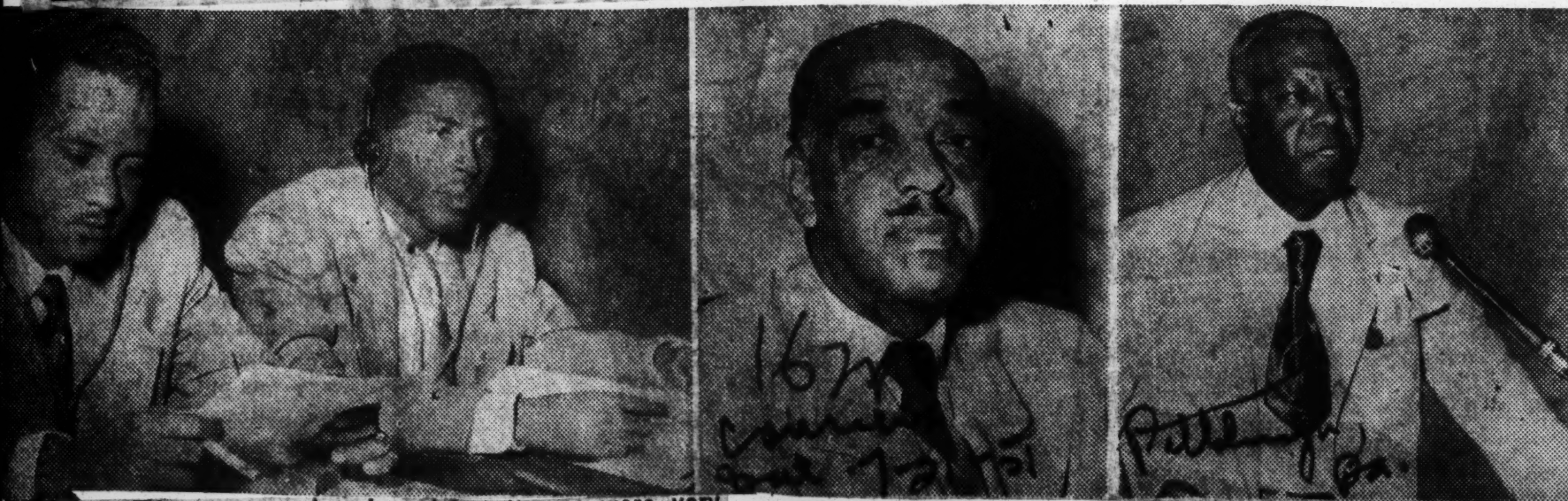
## United Mine Workers of America

companies, executives and deputy sheriffs. The case went to trial but the jury was unable to reach a decision.

In September of that year, however, the Harlan operators signed with the union. They resisted again the following year for a time, but finally signed. Contractual relations have been maintained since that time.



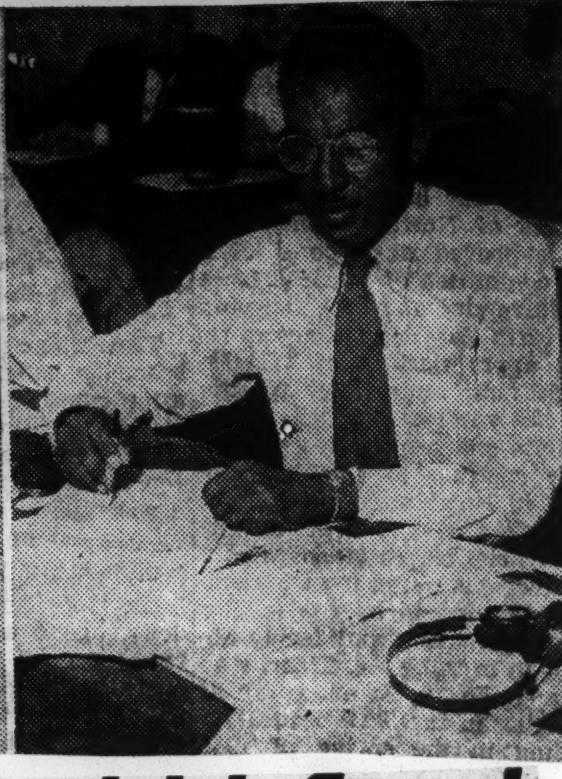
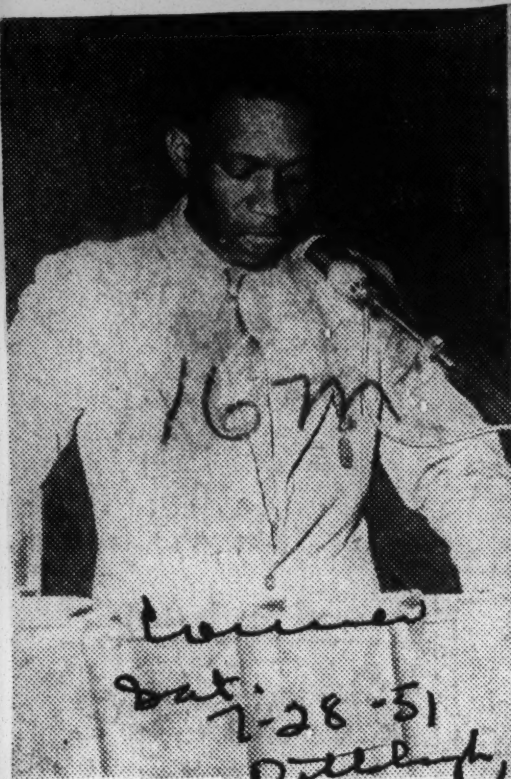
# ICFTU Congress Hears Randolph Speak in Milan, Italy



**Labor Figures—** American labor figures were very much in evidence in Milan, Italy, recently. The above photos show, left to right: Gerard Bastien, left, and Kesler Clermont, delegates to the Second World Congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions from the Republic of Haiti, in their seats in the Palazzo del Ghiaccio in Milan, Italy, when the Free World Labor Congress met last week. Boyd Wilson, delegate for the United Steelworkers of America (CIO); A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, speaking to the Congress on Point IV on behalf of America's top labor leaders; Robert Bradshaw of St. Kitts in the Virgin Islands shaking hands with Liang Yung Chang of the Chinese delegation to the Congress. At the left of Mr. Chang is Teng Wan Hsi, and at the right, Wang Chun. In the final photo, S. Shah and Madame Kara of the Indian delegation get their heads together on some Congress protocol.







**World Labor Congress**—Negro labor representatives attended the second meeting of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Milan, Italy, recently. Left: Stephen Mitchell represented 3,000 workers from Granada, BWI, and made a strong denunciation of racial discrimination in the Union of South Africa. Center: A. Philip Randolph, right, leaves the Palace del Ghiaccio during an hour recess. Right: F. Beshir, a worker from the Sudan, works busily during the meeting.

## Laud Randolph Speech At World Labor Meet

ROME — (ANP) — Daily paper "on the level" and in the movement for all it was worth and not just for themselves. He said they had no desires for leadership or domination of the other members. There was much better spirit in every way toward the closing of the sessions and Randolph himself was the object of considerable interest and attention.

The congress, held in the great hall of the Ice Palace at Milan, had delegates from more than 50 countries. There were men of brown, black and yellow skins mingling indiscriminately with those of white. The suspicion and opposition to Americans on the part of many delegates was noticeable. This was especially true as efforts were made to include Yugoslavia in the membership.

The attitude of the other delegates was softened if not completely removed, by the extemporaneous address of Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Randolph, in line with American strategy, did the greater share of representing the combined U. S. delegations and made an eloquent plea to accept the fact that the Americans were